THE

EDINBURGH MAGAZINE,

OR

LITERARY MISCELLANY,

For JUNE 1785.

[*With a* VIEW *of* INVERARY, *a* ROMAN ALTAR, *and a* FRENCH SONG.]

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A STATE of the BAROMETER in inches and decimals, and of Farenheit's THERMOMETER, in the open air, ſhaded from the ſun's rays, taken between twelve and three o'clock afternoon, and the quantity of Rain-water fallen, in inches and decimals, from the 31ſt of May to the 29th of June 1785, near the foot of Arthur's Seat.

Days.	Ther.	Barom. Inch.	Rain Inch.	Weather.	Thermometer at Noon, taken at Highgate near London.
					55
31	55	29.975	——	Clear.	57
1	66	29.78	0.01	Ditto, ſmall ſhower.	59
2	67	29.8175	——	Ditto.	64
3	62	29.825	——	Ditto.	71
4	52	29.9312	——	Cloudy.	57
5	43	29.9625	——	Ditto.	62
6	49	30.095	——	Clear.	56
7	63	30.00875	0.42	Ditto, rain at night.	64
8	69	29.86625	——	Ditto.	68
9	72	29.96875	0.325	Ditto, ditto.	72
10	69	30.2125	——	Ditto.	79
11	74	30.3	0.05	Ditto.	75
12	69	30.295	——	Ditto.	76
13	73	30.43	——	Ditto.	74
14	79	30.01875	——	Ditto.	85
15	68	30.	0.01	Rain and cloudy.	58
16	70	29.966	0.23	Ditto.	64
17	69	30.24375	——	Clear.	68
18	67	30.4375	——	Ditto.	61
19	75	30.4375	0.065	Ditto, ſmall ſhower.	70
20	71	30.44375	——	Ditto.	64
21	68	30.5008	——	Ditto.	69
22	74	30.45125	——	Ditto.	61
23	74	30.47875	——	Ditto.	
24	79	30.435125	——	Ditto.	
25	87	30.437375	——	Ditto.	
26	87	30.3875	——	Ditto.	
27	89	30.30625	——	Ditto.	
28	84	30.18375	——	Ditto.	
29	83	30.08125	——	Ditto.	

Med. Heat $70\frac{1}{3}$

VIEWS IN SCOTLAND.

Number Fifth.

INVERARY, a small town in Argyleshire, on the side of Loch-fin. The castle is the principal seat of the Duke of Argyle, chief of the Campbells. It is quadrangular, with a round tower at each corner, and in the middle rises a square one, glazed on every side to give light to the stair-case and galleries; which has from without a most disagreeable effect. It is built of a coarse *lapis ollaris*, brought from the other side of Loch-fin; and is of the same kind as that found in Norway, of which the King of Denmark's palace is built. Duke Archibald, the founder of the castle, designed to have built a new town on the west side of the little bay on which the house stands: He finished a few houses, a custom-house, and an excellent inn; but his death interrupted the completion of the plan. From the top of the great rock *Duniquaich* is a charming view of the castle, the lawn sprinkled with fine beeches and other trees, a country fertile in corn bordering the loch, and the loch itself (which from its narrowness and the winding of its shores has all the appearance of a fresh-water lake) covered with boats employed in the herring-fishery.

ANECDOTES.

From Sheridan's Life of Swift.

THE knot of wits used at this time to assemble at Button's coffee-house; and I had a singular account of Swift's first appearance there from Ambrose Philips, who was one of Mr Addison's little senate. He said that they had for several successive days observed a strange clergyman come into the coffee-house, who seemed utterly unacquainted with any of those who frequented it; and whose custom it was to lay his hat down on a table, and walk backwards and forwards at a good pace for half an hour or an hour without speaking to any mortal, or seeming in the least to attend to any thing that was going forward there. He then used to take up his hat, pay his money at the bar, and walk away without opening his lips. After having observed this singular behaviour for some time, they concluded him to be out of his senses; and the name that he went by among them was that of the *mad parson*. This made them more than usually attentive to his motions; and one evening, as Mr Addison and the rest were observing him, they saw him cast his eyes several times on a gentleman in boots, who seemed to be just come out of the country, and at last advance towards him as intending to address him. They were all eager to hear what this dumb mad parson had to say, and immediately quitted their seats to get near him. Swift went up to the country-gentleman, and in a very abrupt manner, without any previous salute, asked him, "Pray, Sir, do you remember any good weather in the world?" The country-gentleman, after staring a little at the singularity of his manner, and the oddity of the question, answered, "Yes, Sir, "I thank God, I remember a great deal of good weather in my time." "That is more," said Swift, "than I can say; I never remember any weather that was

not too hot, or too cold; too wet, or too dry; but, however God Almighty contrives it, at the end of the year 'tis all very well." Upon saying this, he took up his hat, and without uttering a syllable more, or taking the least notice of any one, walked out of the coffee-house; leaving all those who had been spectators of this odd scene staring after him, and still more confirmed in the opinion of his being mad. There is another anecdote recorded of him, of what passed between him and Dr Arbuthnot in the same coffee-house. The Doctor had been scribbling a letter in great haste, which was much blotted; and seeing this odd parson near him, with a design to play upon him said, "Pray, Sir, have you any sand about you?" "No," replied Swift, "but I have the gravel, and if you'll give me your letter I'll p-is upon it." Thus singularly commenced an acquaintance between those two great wits, which afterwards ripened into the closest friendship. After these adventures they saw him no more at Button's, till the Tale of a Tub had made its appearance in the world, when, in the person of the author of that inimitable performance, they recognized their mad parson.

Happening to be in company with a petulant young man, who prided himself in saying pert things to the Dean, and at last getting up with some conceited gesticulations, said, with a confident air—"You must know, "Mr Dean, I set up for a wit." "Do you so," says the Dean; "then take my advice, and sit down again."

There was nothing Swift disliked more than applications from witlings and poetasters to look over their pieces; and he generally had some whimsical contrivance to make them repent of this, which being told, might also deter others from the like. Among these, there was a poor author of my acquaintance, who had written a very indifferent tragedy, and got himself introduced to the Dean in order to have his opinion of it. In a fortnight after the delivery, he called at the Deanery to know how he approved of it. Swift returned the play carefully folded up, telling him he had read it, and taken some pains with it; and he believed the author would not find above half the number of faults in it that it had when it came into his hands. Poor Davy, after a thousand acknowledgements to the Dean for the trouble he had taken, retired in company with the gentleman who had first introduced him; and was so impatient to see what corrections Swift had made, that he would not wait till he got home, but got under a gateway in the next street; and, to his utter astonishment and confusion, saw that the Dean had taken the pains to blot out every second line throughout the whole play so carefully as to render them utterly illegible. Nor was it in the power of the unfortunate author to conceal his disgrace, as his friend, from whom I had the story, thought it too good a joke to be lost.

Captain Hamilton, of Castle-Hamilton, in the County of Cavan, gave me the following account of his first acquaintance with Swift. The Captain was possessed of one of the largest estates and best houses in the county, where he constantly resided, and lived in a most hospitable way. He had a good natural understanding, but utterly unimproved through a neglect in his education. He was cheerful, good natured, and generous in the highest degree. A long friendship had subsisted between Sir Arthur Acheson and him, and they usually passed two months in the year at each others house alternately. It happened that Captain Hamilton paid one of these visits when Swift was there. Sir Arthur, upon hearing of

his friend's arrival, ran out to receive him at the door, followed by Swift. The Captain, who did not see the Dean, as it was in the dusk of the evening, in his blunt way, upon entering the house, exclaimed, that he was very sorry he was so unfortunate to choose that time for his visit—Why so?—Because I hear Dean Swift is with you. He is a great scholar, a wit; a plain country squire will have but a bad time of it in his company, and I don't like to be laughed at. Swift then stepped up to the Captain, from behind Sir Arthur, where he had stood, and said to him, "Pray, Captain Hamilton, do you know how to say yes or no properly?" Yes, I think I have understanding enough for that. "Then give me your hand—depend upon it you and I will agree very well." The Captain told me he never passed two months so pleasantly in his life, nor had ever met with so agreeable a companion as Swift proved to be during the whole time; insomuch, that at parting he pressed him most cordially to pass the next summer with him at Castle-Hamilton.

When he was at Quilea, he went one Sunday to the church at the distance of more than two hours ride. The parson of the parish invited him to dinner; but Swift excused himself by saying, that it was too far to ride homewards; no, I shall dine with my neighbour Reilly at Virginy, which is half-way home. Reilly, who was what is called there a gentleman farmer, was proud of the honour, and immediately dispatched a messenger to his wife to prepare for the reception of so extraordinary a guest. She dressed herself out in her best apparel; the son put on his new suit, and his silver-laced hat adorned his head. When the lady was introduced to the Dean, he saluted her with the same respect as if she had been a duchess, making several *congé*'s down to the ground, and then handed her with great formality to her seat. After some high-flown compliments, he addressed his host—"Mr Reilly, I suppose you have a considerable estate here; let us go and look over your demesne." "Estate!" says Reilly; "Devil a foot of land belongs to me or any of my generation." I have a pretty good lease here indeed from Lord Fingal; but he threatens that he will not renew it, and I have but a few years of it to come. "Well—but when am I to see Mrs Reilly?" "Why, don't you see her there before you?" "That Mrs Reilly! impossible! I have heard she is a prudent woman, and as such would never dress herself out in silks and other ornaments, fit only for ladies of fashion. No—Mrs Reilly the farmer's wife would never wear any thing better than plain stuff, with other things suitable to it." Mrs Reilly happened to be a woman of good sense; and taking the hint, immediately withdrew, changed her dress as speedily as possible, and in a short time returned to the parlour in her common apparel. Swift saluted her in the most friendly manner, taking her by the hand, and saying, "I am heartily glad to see you, Mrs Reilly. This husband of yours would fain have palmed a fine lady upon me, all dressed out in silks, and in the pink of the mode, for his wife; but I was not to be taken in so." He then laid hold of young master's fine laced hat; with his pen-knife ripped off the lace, and folding it up in several papers thrust it into the fire. When it was sufficiently burnt, he wrapped it up in fresh paper, and put it in his pocket. It may be supposed that the family was put into no small confusion at this strange proceeding; but they did not dare to show that they took any umbrage at it, as the presence of Swift struck every one with uncommon awe who were not well acquainted with him.

However, as he soon resumed his good

good humour, entertaining them with many pleaſantries to their taſte (for no man knew better how to adapt his converſation to all claſſes of people), they ſoon recovered their ſpirits, and the day was paſſed very cheerfully. When he was taking his leave, he ſaid, "I do not intend to rob you, Mrs Reilly; I ſhall take nothing belonging to you away with me; there's your ſon's hat-lace, I have only changed the form of it to a much better one. So God bleſs you, and thanks for your good entertainment."

When he was gone, Mrs Reilly, upon opening the paper, found there were four guineas incloſed in it, together with the burnt lace. While he ſtaid in the country, he kept an eye upon them, and found his leſſons had not been thrown away, as they were cured of their vanities, aud lived in a manner more conſonant to their ſituation in life. In conſequence of which, one of the firſt things he did on his return to Dublin, was to pay a viſit to Lord Fingal, and engage him to renew Reilly's leaſe; without which the poor man would, in a few years, have had nothing for his own or his family's ſupport.

DURING the rebellion in the year 1745, the tragedy of "Macbeth" was commanded. Things at that time were drawing near a criſis. The Duke of Cumberland was in purſuit of the rebel army; and the fate of the Houſe of Brunſwick depended upon the event of a few days.

In this ſituation of affairs, it muſt naturally be ſuppoſed that the royal mind could not be ſo far at eaſe as to enjoy with a tolerable degree of ſerenity any amuſement. His Majeſty, accordingly, determined that he would not go to the theatre that evening, notwithſtanding the play had been publicly announced as *by command*. The reaſon he alleged to thoſe around him for this determination was, that he was apprehenſive leſt his appearing to be out of ſpirits during the repreſentation, which, from the agitation of his mind at that critical juncture, he could not poſſibly avoid being, might tend to give the audience an idea that he had received ſome unfavourable intelligence from Scotland.

The Duke of Grafton, who was at that time Lord Chamberlain, and in great favour with his royal maſter, ſaw, however, the improrpiety of ſuch a reſolution. His Grace therefore humbly repreſented to his Majeſty, that his not appearing at the theatre, as it had been announced, would tend more to alarm the apprehenſions of his ſubjects, than if a gloom ſhould diffuſe itſelf over his countenance whilſt in their ſight.

As the firſt principle of that (my pen had almoſt preſumed to write) *dear* man's mind was humanity, and a kind concern for the welfare of his ſubjects, he conſented to *ſuffer* himſelf, rather than awaken their fears by ſtaying away. His Majeſty accordingly yielded to his Grace's repreſentation, and entered the box with a heavy heart; where, as I have been informed, he ſat, during the two firſt acts, quite abſorbed in thought.

Juſt as the ſecond act was finiſhed, diſpatches were delivered to his Majeſty, which informed him of the victory gained by his ſon at the battle of Culloden. Having haſtily peruſed the contents of them, he immediately aroſe, and animated with all that majeſtic grace which he ſo eminently poſſeſſed, he held out the paper, and with an ineffable ſmile of grandeur and beneficence, uttered the exclamation, Oh!—His manner was ſo expreſſive, ſo affectionate and intuitive, that, like electricity, it inſtantly conveyed happineſs to the expecting and anxious audience; who immediately ſtarting up, huzza'd, applauded,

plauded, and by every mark of respect and joy congratulated their much-loved monarch.

The particulars of the enlivening news being communicated to them, they stopped the play, although it was one of their admired Shakespeare's; and ordering all the singers to *unwitch* themselves, directed them to sing "God save great George our King." This song they encored so often, and repeated so frequently their tokens of loyalty and gratitude, that it was near one in the morning before the whole was concluded. His Majesty then retired with all the affectionate tenderness of a fond parent; and those who had been so fortunate as to share in so so ecstatic a scene, returned to their respective homes as happy as indulged and favoured children.

In the first year of the same rebellion, the subscription which was entered into for the support of government being filled with unexampled expedition, his Grace of Grafton congratulated his royal master upon such an unequivocal proof of affection. To which his Majesty replied in his usual broken English, "My good Lord, my peoples *be my wife;* tho' they quarrel with me themselves, they will not suffer others to do it."

THE late Sir Thomas Robinson was usually called *Long* Sir Thomas, not only from there being another person who bore exactly the same name and title, but also from his uncommon tallness, which was rendered the more conspicuous by his being almost as thin as a skeleton. To this was added the most uncouth and aukward carriage that can be conceived. In short, he was not much unlike the figure which is so finely depicted in the last book of that beautiful allegory * Porsena; he seemed to want nothing but the scythe, to make his resemblance perfectly similar to that destroyer of mankind.

The circumstances of the Baronet being in no very flourishing situation at that time, he thought a journey to Paris, where he had a sister married to a rich financier, would be the means of recruiting them. He accordingly set out for France, but in a garb equally as uncouth and *outré* as his figure. He wore a brown scratch wig, a short riding-coat, together with a pair of jack-boots; and carried in his hand a postillion's long-lashed whip.

Thus accoutred, he arrived at the gate of the hôtel where his brother-in-law resided. The Swiss, who opened the door, beholding such an extraordinary being, stood aghast; and when Sir Thomas would have entered, bluntly told him he could not be admitted, as his lady had company. Though the Baronet did not understand the language in which the prohibition was conveyed, he guessed the purport of it by the man's countenance, and made shift to utter, in broken French, *her frere, her frere.*

The porter hearing this, ran to call the groom of the chambers, who understood a little English; and Sir Thomas having made known to him his affinity to the lady of the house, his arrival, without any more obstruction, was announced. At it happened to be dinner-time when this mirror of knighthood arrived, his sister, after cordially embracing him, placed him, habited as he was, at the table, between an Abbé and a Macarony. He was no sooner seated, than the two gentlemen between whom he sat, struck with the oddity of his figure, dress, and deportment, stared at him with marks of the greatest astonishment. At length the latter, unable to restrain his curiosity, laid down his fork †, and thus addressed him: "*Mon-*

* Vide Dodsley's Collection.

† In France, a fork and spoon are commonly used, instead of a knife and fork.

" *Monsieur, ne feriez vous pas, par hazard, la fameux Robinson Crusôe de qui on parle dans l'histoire?*" " Pray, Sir, are you not the famous Robinson Crusoe, of whom we read in history?" The mirth so singular and unexpected a question occasioned, is better conceived than described. The singularity of the Baronet's garb, and the whole of his appearance, warranted, in some measure, such a supposition; nor could it, had Sir Thomas understood the full force of it, which his ignorance of the French language prevented, have excited his displeasure.

WHEN the late reverend Mr Felton found that his first organ concertos were well received, he opened a subscription for a second set, and begged of Brown to solicit Mr Handel's permission to insert his name in the list. Brown, who had been in great favour with Handel the winter before, when he led his Oratorios, remembering how civilly he had been attended by him to the door, and how carefully cautioned, after being heated by a crowded room and hard labour, at the rehearsals in Brook-street, not to stir without a chair, had no doubt of his success: but upon mentioning to him Felton's request, as delicately as possible, one morning when he was shaving, by telling him that he was a clergyman, who being about to publish some concertos by subscription, was extremely ambitious of the honour of his name and acceptance of a book, merely to grace his list, without involving him in any kind of expence; Handel, putting the barber's hand aside, got up in a fury, and with his face still in a lather, cried out with great vehemence: " Tamn your seluf, and go to der teiffel—a barson make Concerto! why he no make farmon?" &c. In short, Brown seeing him in such a rage, with razors in his reach, got out of the room as fast as he could, lest he should have used them in a more barbarous way than would be safe.

Carestini, Conti detto Gizziello, and Cafferello, were all great singers, in a new style of execution, which Handel was unwilling to flatter. 'Verdi prati,' which was constantly encored during the whole run of Alcina, was, at first, sent back to Handel by Carestini as unfit for him to sing; upon which he went, in great rage, to his house, and in a way which few composers, except Handel, ever ventured to accost a first-singer, cries out, 'You toc! don't I know better as your seluf vaat is pest for you to sing? If you vill not sing all de song vaat I give you, I will not pay you ein stiver.'

His government of singers was certainly somewhat despotic: for, upon Cuzzoni insolently refusing to sing his admirable air, 'Falsa Imagine,' in Otho, he told her that he always knew she was a very devil; but that he should now let her know, in her turn, that he was Beelzebub the prince of the devils. And then, taking her up by the waist, swore, if she did not immediately obey his orders, he would throw her out of the window.

One night, while Handel was in Dublin, Dubourg having a solo part in a song, and a close to make *ad libitum*, he wandered about in different keys a great while, and seemed indeed a little bewildered, and uncertain of his original key . . . but at length coming to the shake, which was to terminate this long close, Handel, to the great delight of the audience, and augmentation of applause, cried out, loud enough to be heard in the most remote parts of the theatre: 'You are welcome home, Mr Dubourg!'

Nature of a COMPACT *with the* DEVIL.

THIS compact or agreement, as grave and learned authors inform us, is sometimes made expresly with the great devil himself in person, corporally present before witnesses, who takes an oath of homage and allegiance from his vassal, and then endows him with the powers of magic: This was the case with a certain Arragonese nobleman, which Heisterback in his treatise upon miracles tells us he was a witness to; also of the Vidame Theophylus in the year 537, as related by Sigisbert. Sometimes it is done by memorial or address in writing, in the manner of certain Norman heretics, who wrote a petition to the Sybils, as chief of the necromancers. This petition sets forth, that, "Whereas the parties undersigning had entered into certain articles and conditions, and by solemn engagement bound themselves faithfully to perform the same; they now pray, in the first place, the ratification of those articles and conditions on the part of the sybils; and that they would be pleased in conformity thereunto to order and direct their under-agents and familiars to do suit and service to the contracting parties agreeably to condition; and that when they were summoned and invoked to appear, they would be promptly forthcoming, not in their own shapes, to the annoyance and offence of the contracting parties; but sprucely and handsomely, like personable gentlemen: Also, That the petitioners might be discharged from the ceremony of compelling them by the drawing of a circle, or of confining themselves or their familiars within the same.

"Secondly, That the sybils would be pleased to affix some seal or signature to the convention, by which its power and efficacy with their subserviant familiars might be rendered more secure and permanent.

"Thirdly, That the petitioners may be exempted from all danger, which might otherwise accrue to them, from the civil authority of magistrates, or the inquisitorial power of the church.

"Fourthly, That all the temporal undertakings and pursuits of the petitioners in the courts and councils of princes may prosper and succeed; and that good luck may attend them in all kinds of gaming to their suitable profit and advantage.

"Lastly, That their enemies of all sorts may have no power over them to do them hurt.

"That these conditions being granted and performed, the petitioners on their part solemnly promise and vow perpetual fealty and allegiance to their sovereigns the Sybils, as in the convention itself is more fully set forth; and that they will faithfully, and so long as they shall live, make a sacrifice and oblation of one human soul every year, to be offered up on the day and hour of the day in which this convention shall be ratified and confirmed by the Sybilline powers; provided always, That the said high and mighty powers shall fully and *bona fide* perform what is therein stipulated and agreed to on their parts in the premisses."

This document is faithfully translated from Father Delrius's Latin Treatise, *Disquisitionum Magicarum*, *lib.* 2. *quest.* 4.

In both these cases, whether the parties contract *viva voce*, or proceed by petition, the conditions are the same, and consist, as we are told, in an express renunciation of the Christian creed; the baptismal rites are reversed; and the devil, or his representative, scratches out the cross from

from the forehead with his nails, and re-baptises his vassal by a name of his own devising: these are indispensable conditions. The devil also exacts some rag or remnant of his vassal's garment as a badge of allegiance, and compels him to make the oath within a circle drawn upon the ground, (which being a figure without beginning or end, is a symbol of divinity); in this circle the figure of a cross is to be traced out, on which the magician elect tramples and kicks with disdain. He then requests the devil to strike his name out of the Book of Life, and inscribe it in the Book of Death. He next promises to make monthly or quarterly sacrifices to the devil, which female magicians or witches perform by sucking out the breath of a new-born male infant: he proceeds to put some secret mark upon himself with the point of a needle, as the sign of the Beast or Antichrist; in which mark there is great potency; and in some cases, according to Irenæus, it appears, that the devil insists upon cauterizing his disciples in the upper membrane of the right ear; in others, according to Tertullian, in the forehead. This being done, the magician elect vows eternal enmity against the Eucharist, the Blessed Virgin, the Saints, the Holy Relicts and Images, and forswears confession for ever; upon which the devil ratifies his part of the compact, and the magic ceremony is complete.

On these occasions, the devil seldom, if ever, takes a terrific form, for fear of deterring his votaries; and oftentimes appears in great beauty, and with a very winning address, as he did to Theodore Maillot, Deputy Governor of Lorraine, visiting him in the shape of a very pretty girl, (*lepida et liberali forma puella*)—and promising him a certain great Lady in marriage, with whom Maillot was distractedly in love. The conditions stipulated by the devil on this visit were of a piece with the lovely form he assumed; for they consisted in injunctions only to perform all the Christian and moral duties, to observe his meagre days, to say his masses, and be regular in his confessions. These unexpected stipulations threw Maillot into so deep a melancholy, that his domestic chaplain, observing it, extorted from him a confession of all that had passed; and piously dissuaded him from any further interviews of that sort.

As to the magic powers which the devil imparts in return for these concessions of his votaries, theologicians have different opinions; some giving more and some less credit to the miracle: but the general opinion amongst them is, that they are performed by the devil and his dæmons by the celerity of art and motion with which one thing is substituted for another, but that there is no new creation in the case.

It is acknowledged, that sorcerers and magicians can blight the grain, destroy the fruits of the earth, and make a bad harvest; which Remegius assures us is done by sprinkling certain dust in the air, which the dæmon makes up and supplies them with for the purpose.—He also says, the dæmons do not only make up this powder or dust for the witches, but are particularly indulgent to them in the article of ground-mice, with which they devour all the roots of the grass and grain: that the gad-fly is always within call; and that they have plenty of wolves at command to send into any fold or flock they think proper to destroy. The learned author doubts if the devil actually makes these wolves *de novo*; but rather thinks that he hunts them up together, and drives the country. If this sport does not succeed to his wish, he thinks it probable the dæmons themselves execute the mischief in the shapes of wolves—(*verisimile videtur dæmones esse, qui specie lupina talem pau-*

pauperiem faciunt.)—He tells us, that he has brought many witches to confess these things; and though he acknowledges the power of their spells for producing meats and viands, that have the appearance of a sumptuous feast, which the devil furnishes, still he gives a bad account of his cookery; for that Divine Providence seldom permits the meat to be good, but that it has generally some bad taste or smell, mostly wants salt, and the feast is often without bread.

Though heretics have obstinately denied the copulation of wizards with the female dæmons called Succubæ, and of witches with the males or Incubi; yet the whole authority of the Catholic Church with the Bull of Pope Innocent VIII. expresly affirms it for a fact—(*Communis tamen hæc est sententia Patrum, Theologorum et Philosophorum doctorum—et pro eadem pugnat Bullæ Innocentii VIII. Pontificis contra maleficos.*)—It is also an orthodox opinion, that children may be begotten by this diabolical commerce; and there is little doubt but that Luther was the son of an Incubus. That witches are carried through the air by certain spells, is confirmed by a host of witnesses; and the operation is generally performed by smearing the body with a certain ointment prepared by the dæmons: This ointment several people have innocently made use of, particularly husbands of Ladies using witchcraft; and have found themselves wafted up chimneys and through windows at a furious rate, and transported sometimes an hundred miles from their own homes. Many curious instances of magic powers might be enumerated; but I shall mention only the following:

The first is the case of an heretical woman in the town of Paderborn, who brought forth a male infant in a parson's gown and beaver—*palliatum et pileatum, modo ecclesiasticorum*—who, from his natural antipathy to Papists, always reviled them wherever he met them. This Father Delrius assures us, was a fact of general notoriety, and a just judgment from God on the heresy of the mother. Niderius, in the chapter upon witches *in Formicario*, says, That an heretical young witch at Cologn, by the help of a dæmon, took a handkerchief, and in presence of a great company of noble spectators tore it into pieces, and immediately afterwards produced it whole and entire. This wicked jade then took up a glass, threw it against the wall, broke it into a thousand fragments, and instantly shewed it to the company as whole as at first. Niderius concludes, with just indignation against such diabolical practices, that this girl was well handled by the Fathers of the Inquisition, where her tricks could stand her in no stead; which indeed is not to be wondered at, as the devil himself would not choose to venture before that tribunal.

There was one Zedekiah a Jew physician, who, in presence of the Emperor Lodowich the Pious, in the year 876 swallowed a prize-fighter on horseback, horse and all, (*Hoplomachum equitem devoravit.*)—Nay, he did more, he swallowed a cart loaded with hay, horses, and driver, (*currum quoque onustum fæno cum equis et auriga:*)—he cut off people's heads, hands and feet, which he fastened on again in the eyes of all the court, whilst the blood was running from them; and in a moment the man so maimed appeared whole and unhurt: he caused the Emperor to hear the sound of hounds in full chace, with shouts of huntsmen and many other noises in the air; and in the midst of winter showed him a garden in full bloom with flowers and fruits, and birds singing in the trees: a most detestable piece of magic, and very unworthy of an emperor to pass over with impunity; for he suffered the Jew Doctor to escape.—As it is always

right, when a man deals in the marvellous, to quote his authority, I beg leave to inform the incredulous reader (if any there be), that I take these facts upon the credit of the learned Joannes Trithemius, a very serious and respectable author.—One more case in point occurs to me, which I shall state, and then release my readers from the conjurors circle; and this is the case of one Diodorus, vulgarly called *Liodorus*, a Sicilian conjuror, who by spells and inchantments turned men into brute animals, and metamorphosed almost every thing he laid his hands on. This fellow, when the inhabitants of Catania would have persuaded him to let them hang him quietly and contentedly, as a conjurer and heretic ought, took counsel of the devil, and cowardly flew away to Byzantium, by the shortest passage through the air, to the great disappointment of the spectators: being pursued by the officers of justice, not indeed through the air, but as justice is accustomed to travel *pede claudo*, he took a second flight, and alighting in the city of Catania, was providentially caught by Leo the good bishop of that city; who throwing him into a fiery furnace, roasted this strange bird to the great edification of all beholders (*sed tandem a Leone Catanensi Episcopo, divina virtute ex improviso captus, frequenti in media urbe populo, in fornacem igneam injectus, ignis incendio consumptus est*)—This anecdote is to be found in Thomas Fazellus, (*lib.* 5. *c.* 2. and again *lib.* 3. *deca.* 1. *rerum siculaurm*) who closes his account with the following pious remark, naturally arising from his subject, and which I shall set down in his own words:—*Sic divina justitia prævaluit, et qui se judicibus forte minus justo zelo motis eripuerat, e sancti viri manibus elabi non potuit.* "Thus," says he, "divine justice prevailed; and he, who had snatched himself out of the hands of judges, who perhaps were actuated by a zeal not so just as it should be, could not escape from this holy person."

OBSERVER.

Conclusion of Dr BLAGDEN'S *Observations on the Nature and Causes of* FIERY METEORS, *from page* 60.

THE investigation of the cause which can produce such appearances at an elevation, where, if the atmosphere cannot be said absolutely to have ceased, it is yet to be considered as next to nothing, must naturally be an object of great curiosity to philosophers.

The first idea which suggested itself, that they were burning bodies projected with such a velocity, was quickly abandoned from the want of any known power to raise them to that great height; or, if there, to give them the required impetus.

Dr Halley supposes, that a train of inflammable vapours, accumulated in those lofty regions, is suddenly set on fire; whence all the phenomena are produced by successive inflammation. But he neither justly explains the nature of those vapours, the manner in which they can be raised through air so extremely rare, nor does he account for their regular arrangement in a straight and equable line of such prodigious extent, or their continuing to burn in air so highly rarified. It is indeed very difficult to conceive how, in regions where there is in a manner no pressure, such vapours could be prevented from spreading out on all sides, in consequence of their natural elasticity, and instantly losing the degree of density necessary to inflammation; or how it happens that such trains do not sometimes take fire in the middle, and

and so present the phenomenon of two different meteors at the same time receding from one another in a direct line.

These difficulties gave birth to a third hypothesis, that meteors are permanent solid bodies, not raised up from the earth, but revolving round it in very eccentric orbits.—But to this too there are many strong objections.

(1.) Meteors are most commonly described, not as looking like solid bodies, but rather like a fine luminous matter, continually changing its shape and appearance.—To obviate this, many defenders of the opinion suppose that the revolving body gets a coat or atmosphere of electricity, by which it becomes luminous; but in Dr Blagden's opinion, whoever considers the various accounts of fire-balls, and especially that of August 18th when it divided, will perceive that their phenomena do not correspond with the idea of a solid nucleus inveloped in a subtile fluid, nor with that of meteors becoming luminous by means of a contained fluid, which occasionally explodes through the thick, solid, outer shell.

(2.) A prodigious number of such bodies is necessary to answer all the appearances. Such a regular gradation is observed from the largest meteors to the minute fires called *shooting stars*, which appear in great numbers every clear night, that it seems impossible to draw any line of distinction between them, or deny that they are all of the same nature. Now it is scarce possible to conceive that such a crowd of revolving bodies should not meet or jostle sometimes near the earth, or fall to it in consequence of various accidents; at least, we might expect they might be seen in the day-time, either with the naked eye or a telescope, by some of the numerous observers who are continually watching the heavens.

(3.) A body falling from infinite space towards the earth, could have acquired, when it came within 50 miles of it, a velocity of only seven miles in a second; whereas those meteors seem to move at least three times faster: and this objection, if there be no mistake in regard to the velocity of those meteors, which probably there is not, absolutely overthrows the whole hypothesis. Dr Blagden therefore concludes, that the only agent in nature capable of producing such phenomena is electricity.

"I do not mean (says he), that by what is already known of that fluid, all the difficulties relative to meteors can be solved; as the laws by which its motions on a large scale are regulated in those regions so nearly empty of air, can scarcely, I imagine, be investigated in our small experiments with exhausted vessels; but only, that several of the facts point out a near connection and analogy with electricity; and that none of them are irreconcileable to the discovered laws of that fluid.

"1. Electricity moves with such a prodigious velocity, as to elude all the attempts hitherto made by philosophers to detect it; but the swiftness of meteors, stating it to be 20 miles a second, is such as no experiments yet contrived could have discovered, and which seems to belong to electricity alone. This is, perhaps, the only case in which the course or direction of that fluid is rendered perceptible to our senses, in consequence of the large scale on which these fire-balls move.

"2. Various electrical phenomena have been seen attending meteors. Lambent flames are described as settling upon men, horses, and other objects: and sparks coming from them, or the whole meteor itself, it is said, have damaged ships, houses, &c. in the manner of lightning. These facts, I must own, are but obscurely related; yet still they do not seem to be destitute of foundation.

tion. If there be really any hissing noise heard while meteors are passing, it seems explicable on no other supposition than that of streams of electric matter issuing from them, and reaching the earth with a velocity equal to that of the meteor, namely, in two or three seconds. Accordingly, in one of our late meteors, the hissing was compared to that of electricity issuing from a conductor. The sparks flying off so perpetually from the body of fire-balls, may possibly have some connection with these streams. In the same manner the sound of explosions may perhaps be brought to us quicker, than if it were propagated through the whole distance by air alone. Should these ideas be well founded, the change of direction which meteors seem at times to undergo, may possibly be influenced by the state of the surface of the earth over which they are passing, and to which the streams are supposed to reach. A similar cause may occasion the apparent explosion, the opening of more channels giving new vent and motion to the electric fluid. May not the deviation and explosion which appear to have taken place in the fire-ball of the 18th of August over Lincolnshire, have been determined by its approach towards the Fens, and an attraction produced by that large body of moisture?

"3. A further argument for the electric origin of meteors is deduced from their connection with the northern lights, and the resemblance they bear to these electrical phenomena, as they are now almost universally allowed to be, in several particulars. Instances are recorded, where northern lights have been seen to join and form luminous balls, darting about with great velocity, and even leaving a train behind like the common fire-balls. This train I take to be nothing but the rare air left in such a highly electrified state as to be luminous; and some streams of the northern lights are very much like it. The *aurora borealis* appears to occupy as high, if not a higher, region above the surface of the earth, as may be judged from the very distant countries to which it has been visible at the same time; indeed the great accumulation of electric matter seems to lie beyond the verge of our atmosphere, as estimated by the cessation of twilight. Also with the northern lights a hissing noise is said to be heard in some very cold climates: Gmelin speaks of it in the most pointed terms, as frequent and very loud in the north-eastern parts of Siberia; and other travellers have related similar facts.

"But, in my opinion, the most remarkable analogy of all, and that which tends most to elucidate the origin of these meteors, is the direction of their course, which seems, in the very large ones at least, to be constantly from or toward the north or north-west quarter of the heavens, and indeed to approach very nearly to the present magnetical meridian. This is particularly observable in those meteors of late years whose tracts have been ascertained with most exactness; as that of November 26. 1758, described by Sir John Pringle; that of July 17. 1771, treated of by M. Le Roy; and this of the 18th of August 1783. The largest proportion of the other accounts of meteors confirm the same observation, even those of a more early period; nay, I think, some traces of it are perceivable in the writings of the ancients. Whether their motion shall be *from* the northern quarter of the heavens or *toward* it, seems nearly indifferent, as the numbers of those going each way are not very unequal: I consider them, in the former case, as masses of the electric fluid repelled, or bursting from the great collected body of it in the north; and, in the latter case, as masses attracted toward that accumulation; a distinction,

ſtinction, probably, much the ſame in effect as that of poſitive and negative electricity near the ſurface of the earth.

"This tendency towards the magnetic meridian, however, ſeems to hold good only with regard to the largeſt ſort of fire-balls; the ſmaller ones move more irregularly, perhaps becauſe they come further within the verge of our atmoſphere, and are thereby more expoſed to the action of extraneous cauſes. That the ſmaller ſort of meteors, ſuch as ſhooting ſtars, are really lower down in the atmoſphere, is rendered very probable by their ſwifter *apparent* motion: perhaps it is this very circumſtance which occaſions them to be ſmaller, the electric fluid being more divided in more reſiſting air. But as thoſe maſſes of electricity, which move where there is ſcarcely any reſiſtance, ſo generally affect the direction of the magnetic meridian, the ideas which have been entertained of ſome analogy between theſe two obſcure powers of nature ſeem not altogether without foundation.

"If the foregoing conjectures be juſt, diſtinct regions are allotted to the electrical phenomena of our atmoſphere. Here below we have thunder and lightning, from the unequal diſtribution of the electric fluid among the clouds; in the loftier regions, whither the clouds never reach, we have the various gradations of falling ſtars; till beyond the limits of our crepuſcular atmoſphere the fluid is put into motion in ſufficient maſſes to hold a determined courſe, and exhibit the different appearances of what we call fire-balls; and probably at a ſtill greater elevation above the earth, the electricity accumulates in a lighter, leſs condenſed form, to produce the wonderfully diverſified ſtreams and coruſcations of the *aurora borealis*."

Singular Means of Perſuaſion.

FROM the Memoirs of the Baron de Tott, of which there have appeared two different tranſlations almoſt at the ſame time, we preſent our readers with the following extract.

"The Pruth ſeparates the Pacealick of Kotchim from Moldavia. Ali-Aga * had ſwam over to the oppoſite ſhore the night before, and got together, by dint of his whip, near 300 of the neighbouring Moldavians, and had employed them the whole night in forming with the trunks of trees an ill-contrived raft, on which he had repaſſed to our ſide of the river; but all that did not ſatisfy me of its ſolidity. I prepared myſelf, however, to ſacrifice, if neceſſary, my carriage, and every thing upon it. I only ſecured out of it my pocket-book, fully determined not to expoſe myſelf to ſo evident a perſonal danger; nor would I ſuffer my own attendants to go over, but reſerved them for a ſecond voyage, in caſe the firſt ſucceeded. Meanwhile, my conductor, proudly exulting at having accompliſhed ſo wonderful a work, preſſed me to get into my carriage.—"How," ſaid I, vexed at his ſtupidity, "will you ever contrive to get it down to the river? —How will you afterwards keep it on your paltry raft, which is ſcarce large enough for it, and muſt infallibly ſink under its weight." "How?" ſaid he, "why, with thoſe two inſtruments;" ſhowing me his whip, and upwards of 100 ſturdy peaſants he had brought from the other ſide: "Don't be uneaſy; I would make them bear the univerſe on their ſhoulders. And if the raft ſinks, theſe fellows can all ſwim; they ſhall keep it up; if you loſe the value of a pin, they ſhall

* The Baron's conductor or guide.

"shall every one of them be hang-"ed."

"So much ignorance and barbarity ſhocked me, without giving me more confidence in the raft. But my reſolution was formed; I told him I would not go over with my attendants till the ſecond trip, and therefore he might do as he thought proper. I ſat down on the edge of a cliff, to take a better view of this great manœuvre, and to enjoy at leaſt a ſcene for which I expected to pay very dearly.

"The ſignal for the workmen to begin was then given by pronouncing the name of God, followed by ſeveral ſmacks of his whip. They undid the traces of my carriage, and carried it in their arms to the brink of the precipice, where they had formed with their pickaxes a rough ſort of ſhelving, to facilitate its deſcent: but it was not without ſhuddering, that I ſaw them on the point of being cruſhed by the weight of my coach; which they got down, however, on the raft, where it could only be placed diagonally; and to keep it ſteady in that poſition, four of theſe wretches were clapped under the wheels, the leaſt motion of which would have carried the whole equipage to the bottom of the river. After this operation, which had made that part of the raft next the land ſink into the mud, and had plunged it ſeven or eight inches deep under water on the other ſide, they ſtill had to work to get it afloat, which the 100 men at length effected. They then accompanied it, part of them wading, and others ſwimming, and guided it with long poles to the other ſide, where ſome buffaloes were in readineſs to draw up my carriage, which I ſaw in the twinkling of an eye on the top of the oppoſite cliff. My fears were now at an end; and the raft returning, conveyed us over without a ſhadow of danger or difficulty.

"It is eaſy to imagine that Ali-Aga triumphed on the occaſion; and on ſetting out, I gave the value of 150 livres (ſix or ſeven guineas) to the workmen; but what is not ſo eaſy to imagine, nor could I foreſee it, that my conductor, attentive to all my actions, and to every geſture, ſtaid behind, to get his portion of the trifling preſent I had made theſe poor creatures.

"In an hour afterwards he made his appearance, and immediately went on before to prepare breakfaſt, at three leagues from the Pruth, where we came up with him, whilſt he was collecting proviſions with the ſame inſtrument with which he had conſtructed his rafts. Except the too frequent uſe he made of his whip, Ali-Aga appeared to me to be a good-humoured fellow, and I undertook to make him in future leſs laviſh of his blows.

"*The Baron.* Your dexterity in the paſſage of the Pruth, and the good cheer you provide for us, my dear Ali-Aga, would be fully ſatisfactory, did you not beat thoſe poor Moldavians ſo frequently, or if you only beat them when they diſobey you.

"*Ali-Aga.* What ſignifies it to them, whether it be before or after, ſince they muſt be beaten? Is it not better to do it at once than to loſe time?

"*Baron.* What do you mean by loſing time? Do you call that making a good uſe of it to beat, without reaſon, a ſet of poor creatures, whoſe exertions, ſtrength, and ſubmiſſion perform wonders?

"*Ali-Aga.* What, Sir—you talk the Turkiſh language—you have lived at Conſtantinople—you know the Greeks; and you do not know that Moldavians will do nothing till you break their bones. You imagine then that your carriage would have croſſed the Pruth if I had not beat them all night, and continued this

this discipline until your arrival on the banks of the river?

"*Baron.* Yes; I think that the fear alone of being beaten would have made them do all this: but, however that may be, we have no more rivers to pass; the post supplies us with horses, we want nothing but provisions, and that is my affair; for I will own to you, my dear Ali, that such as you procure for me by blows, are hard of digestion: let me pay for them; that is all I desire.

"*Ali-Aga.* You certainly take the surest way not to have an indigestion; for your money will not even get you bread.

"*Baron.* Never fear; I'll pay them so well, that I shall have the best of every thing, and with more certainty than you could get it yourself.

"*Ali-Aga.* You will not have bread, I tell you: I know the Moldavians; they require beating; besides, I am ordered to defray your expences every where, and these rascally infidels are rich enough to bear the heaviest charges. This is a trifling one; and provided we beat them, they will be contented.

"*Baron.* Do not refuse me, I beg of you, my dear Ali-Aga; I do not wish my expences to be defrayed, and I'll answer for it, they do not wish to be beaten, provided we pay them; I take that upon myself—let me do as I think proper.

"*Ali-Aga.* But we shall die with hunger.

"*Baron.* At any rate, let us make a trial; it is my fancy.

"*Ali-Aga.* Since you are determined, I consent: Try your experiment, which appears necessary to give you some idea of the Moldavians: but when you are better acquainted with them, remember that it is not right I should go to bed without my supper; and when your money and your rhetoric have both failed you, you will allow me, I hope, to make use of my method.

"*Baron.* Be it so; and since we are agreed, I shall, when we arrive at the village where we sleep, address myself to the primate, in order to treat with him in a friendly way for provisions, and a good fire, under some cover, where we may pass the night without having any thing to do with the inhabitants, and be free from the danger of the plague, which has just broke out in Moldavia. "In this case," said Ali-Aga, "I need not go any farther;" and he immediately ordered one of his people to follow my directions, repeating, with a smile, that "he would not go to bed supperless."

"We did not arrive till after sunset at the village where we intended to halt; and we discovered our lodgings by a fire they had prepared for us.

"My conductor, in order to keep to his engagement with me, went to warm himself on alighting, and sat down with his elbow leaning on his saddle, and his whip in his hand, to enjoy the diversion he expected I should afford him. I was no less desirous of procuring my provisions from that spirit which produces a mutual exchange of necessaries. I inquired for the primate, whom they pointed out to me. I went up to him, and presenting him with twenty crowns, (about two guineas and a half,) which I laid upon the ground, spoke to him first in Turkish, then in Greek, in these terms faithfully translated.

"*The Baron,* (in Turkish.) There, my friend, is money to buy the provisions we shall want. I have always loved the Moldavians, and cannot bear they should be ill-treated. I hope you'll lose no time in procuring me a sheep, and some bread; keep the rest of the money to drink my health.

" *The Moldavian*, (feigning not to underſtand Turkiſh). He not underſtand.

" *Baron.* What, don't you underſtand Turkiſh?

" *The Moldavian.* No Turk; he not underſtand.

" *The Baron*, (in Greek.) Well, let us talk Greek then: Take this money, bring me a ſheep and bread; that is all I aſk of you.

" *The Moldavian*, (ſtill feigning not to underſtand, and making ſigns to expreſs that there is nothing in his village, and that they are ſtarving.) Not bread; poor; he not underſtand.

" *Baron.* What, have you no bread?

" *Moldavian.* No bread; no.

" *Baron.* Ah! wretches, how I pity you; but at leaſt you ſhould not be beaten; that is ſome conſolation. It is undoubtedly very hard to go to bed without any ſupper; yet you are a proof that many honeſt men are obliged to do ſo. (To the guide.) You hear what they ſay, my dear Ali; if money can get nothing here, you will own at leaſt that blows would have been ſuperfluous. Theſe poor creatures have nothing, and that grieves me more than having nothing ourſelves to eat for the preſent. We ſhall have a better appetite to-morrow.

" *Ali-Aga.* For my part, it is impoſſible to have a better appetite than I have to-day.

" *Baron.* It is your fault; why did you make a ſtop in a poor village, where there is not even bread? You ſhall faſt for your puniſhment.

" *Ali-Aga.* A poor village, Sir! A poor village! If the darkneſs of the night did not prevent you from ſeeing, you would be delighted with it. It is a little borough that abounds in every thing. One may find even cinnamon here.

" *Baron.* So, I ſee that your deſire of beating is returning upon you.

" *Ali-Aga.* No indeed, Sir; it is only my deſire of ſupping, which I certainly cannot get rid of; and to ſatisfy it, and convince you that I am better acquainted with the Moldavians than you are, let me talk with him.

" *Baron.* Can you ſatisfy your hunger by beating him?

" *Ali-Aga.* Yes, I'll anſwer for it; and if in a quarter of an hour you have not a moſt excellent ſupper, you may return me the blows I ſhall give him.

" *Baron.* On this condition I conſent, and take you at your word; but remember, that if you beat him without reaſon, I ſhall lay on you moſt heartily.

" *Ali-Aga.* As long as you pleaſe; but be as quiet a ſpectator as I have been during your negociation.

" *Baron.* That is but fair; I will take your place.

" *Ali-Aga.* (riſes, puts his whip under his coat, and advancing careleſsly towards the Greek, pats him in a friendly way upon the ſhoulder.) Good-day, friend; how are you? Well—ſpeak—don't you know Ali-Aga, your friend? Come;—why don't you ſpeak?

" *The Moldavian.* No; he not know.

" *Ali-Aga.* He not know!—Ah! ah! that is aſtoniſhing. What, friend, ſeriouſly, you don't underſtand Turkiſh?

" *Moldavian.* No; he not know.

" *Ali-Aga*, (knocks down the primate with his fiſt, and kicks him as he is riſing.) There, ſcoundrel, that is to learn you Turkiſh.

" *Moldavian*, (in good Turkiſh.) Why do you beat me? Don't you know that we are poor people, and that our princes hardly leave us the air we breathe in?

" *Ali-Aga.* Well, Sir; you ſee that I am a good language-maſter; he already ſpeaks Turkiſh charmingly. We can now talk together at leaſt;

least; that is something. (To the Moldavian, leaning on his shoulder.) Now that you know a little Turkish, tell me how you and your wife and children all do?

"*Moldavian.* As well as people can do, who are often in want of the necessaries of life.

"*Ali-Aga.* You are facetious, my friend; you only want a little more beating; but all in good time: let us come to the point; I must have immediately two sheep, twelve chickens, twelve pigeons, fifty pound of bread, four oques of butter, some salt, pepper, nutmegs, cinnamon, lemons, wine, salad, and good oil of olives, and plenty of each of them.

"*The Moldavian*, (crying.) I have already told you we were poor people, who had not even bread, where would you have us get cinnamon?

"*Ali-Aga*, (pulling out his whip under his coat, and beating the Moldavian till he runs away.) Ah! rascally infidel, you have nothing! I shall take the same method of enriching you that I did to learn you Turkish. (The Greek runs away; Ali-Aga returns and sits by the fire.) You see, Sir, that my receipt is better than your's.

"*Baron.* To make the dumb speak, I confess; but not to get a supper: and I believe I shall have some blows to give you in your turn, for your method does not procure provisions any more than mine.

"*Ali-Aga.* Provisions! Oh! we shall be in no want of them: and if in a quarter of an hour, all I have ordered be not here, take my whip and return me all the blows I have given him.

"In fact, the quarter of an hour was not expired, before the primate, assisted by three of his countrymen, brought us all the provisions, without forgetting the cinnamon.

"After this example, it was impossible to deny the efficacy of Ali's receipt; and it was sufficient to cure me of my obstinate humanity. In fact, unaccountable as it appeared, I was evidently wrong; and I was compelled, though reluctantly, to leave to my guide the care of supplying me with provisions in future, without disputing with him about the means."

Customs common to AMERICA *and the North of* ASIA.

WE are indebted to our navigators for settling the long dispute about the point from which the population of America was effected. They, by their discoveries, prove, that in one place the distance between continent and continent is only 39 miles, not (as a celebrated cavillist * would have it) 800 leagues. This narrow streight has also in the middle two islands, which would greatly facilitate the migration of the Asiatics into the New World, supposing that it took place in canoes, after a convulsion had rent the two continents asunder. Besides, it may be added, that these streights are, even in the summer, often filled with ice; in winter, often frozen: in either case mankind might find an easy passage; in the last, the way was extremely ready for quadrupeds to cross, and stock the continent of America. I may fairly call in the machinery of volcanoes to tear away the other means of transit farther to the south, and bring in to my assistance the former supposition of solid land between *Kamtschatka* and *Oonalascha*, instead of the crescent of islands, and which, prior to the great catastrophe, would have greatly enlarged the means

* The author of *Recherches Philosophiques sur les Americains*, i. 136.

means of migration; but the caſe is not of that difficulty to require the ſolution. One means of paſſage is indiſputably eſtabliſhed.

But where, from the vaſt expanſe of the north-eaſtern world, to fix on the firſt tribes who contributed to people the new continent, now inhabited almoſt from end to end, is a matter that baffles human reaſon. The learned may make bold and ingenious conjectures, but plain good ſenſe cannot always accede to them. As mankind increaſed in numbers, they naturally protruded one another forward. Wars might be another cauſe of migrations. I know no reaſon why the Aſiatic north might not be an *officina virorum*, as well as the *European*. The overteeming country, to the eaſt of the *Riphæan* mountains, muſt find it neceſſary to diſcharge its inhabitants: the firſt great wave of people was forced forward by the next to it, more tumid and more powerful than itſelf: ſucceſſive and new impulſes continually arriving, ſhort reſt was given to that which ſpread over a more eaſtern tract; diſturbed again and again, it covered freſh regions; at length, reaching the fartheſt limits of the Old World, found a new one, with ample ſpace to occupy unmoleſted for ages; till *Columbus* curſed them by a diſcovery, which brought again new ſins and new deaths to both worlds.

The inhabitants of the NEW do not conſiſt of the offspring of a ſingle nation: different people, at ſeveral periods, arrived there; and it is impoſſible to ſay, that any one is now to be found on the original ſpot of its colonization. It is impoſſible, with the lights which we have ſo recently received, to admit that *America* could receive its inhabitants (at leaſt the bulk of them) from any other place than eaſtern *Aſia*. A few proofs may be added, taken from cuſtoms or dreſſes common to the inhabitants of both worlds: ſome have been long extinct in the old, others remain in both in full force.

The cuſtom of ſcalping was a barbariſm in uſe with the *Scythians*, who carried about them at all times this ſavage mark of triumph: they cut a circle round the neck, and ſtripped off the ſkin, as they would that of an ox *. A little image, found among the *Kalmucs*, of a *Tartarian* deity, mounted on a horſe, and ſitting on a human ſkin, with ſcalps pendent from the breaſt, fully illuſtrates the cuſtom of the *Scythian* progenitors, as deſcribed by the *Greek* hiſtorian. This uſage, as the *Europeans* know by horrid experience, is continued to this day in *America*. The ferocity of the *Scythians* to their priſoners extended to the remoteſt part of *Aſia*. The *Kamtſchatkans*, even at the time of their diſcovery by the *Ruſſians*, put their priſoners to death by the moſt lingering and excruciating inventions; a practice in full force to this very day among the aboriginal *Americans*. A race of the *Scythians* were ſtyled *Anthropophagi*, from their feeding on human fleſh. The people of *Nootka Sound* ſtill make a repaſt on their fellow-creatures: but what is more wonderful, the ſavage allies of the *Britiſh* army have been known to throw the mangled limbs of the *French* priſoners into the horrible cauldron, and devour them with the ſame reliſh as thoſe of a quadruped.

The *Scythians* were ſaid, for a certain time, annually to transform themſelves into wolves, and again to reſume the human ſhape. The new-diſcovered *Americans* about *Nootka Sound*, at this time diſguiſe themſelves in dreſſes made of the ſkins of wolves and other wild beaſts, and wear even the heads fitted to their own. Theſe habits they uſe in the chace,

* *Herodotus*. lib. 4.—Compare the account given by the hiſtorian with the *Tartarian iconculus*, in DR PALLAS's *Travels*, i. tab. x. a.

chace, to circumvent the animals of the field. But would not ignorance or superstition ascribe to a supernatural metamorphosis these temporary expedients to deceive the brute creation?

In their marches the *Kamtschatkans* never went abreast, but followed one another in the same track. The same custom is exactly observed by the *Americans*.

The *Tungusi*, the most numerous nation resident in *Sibiria*, prick their faces with small punctures, with a needle, in various shapes; then rub into them charcoal, so that the marks become indelible. This custom is still observed in several parts of *America*. The *Indians* on the back of *Hudson*'s bay, to this day perform the operation exactly in the same manner, and puncture the skin into various figures; as the natives of *New Zealand* do at present, and as the ancient *Britons* did with the herb *Glastum*, or Woad; and the *Virginians*, on the first discovery of that country by the *English*.

The *Tungusi* use canoes made of birch-bark, distended over ribs of wood, and nicely sewed together. The *Canadian*, and many other *American* nations, use no other sort of boats. The paddles of the *Tungusi* are broad at each end; those of the people near *Cook's* river, and of *Oonalascha*, are of the same form.

In burying of the dead, many of the *American* nations place the corpse at full length, after preparing it according to their customs; others place it in a sitting posture, and lay by it the most valuable cloathing, wampum, and other matters. The *Tartars* did the same: and both people agree in covering the whole with earth, so as to form a *tumulus*, barrow, or carnedd.

Some of the *American* nations hang their dead in trees. Certain of the *Tungusi* observe a similar custom.

I can draw some analogy from dress: conveniency in that article must have been consulted on both continents, and originally the materials must have been the same, the skins of birds and beasts. It is singular, that the conic bonnet of the *Chinese* should be found among the people of *Nootka*. I cannot give into the notion, that the *Chinese* contributed to the population of the New World; but I can readily admit, that a shipwreck might furnish those *Americans* with a pattern for that part of the dress.

In respect to the features and form of the human body, almost every tribe found along the western coast has some similitude to the *Tartar* nations, and still retain the little eyes, small noses, high cheeks, and broad faces. They vary in size from the lusty *Calmucs* to the little *Nogaians*. The internal *Americans*, such as the *Five Indian* nations, who are tall of body, robust in make, and of oblong faces, are derived from a variety among the *Tartars* themselves. The fine race of *Tschutski* seem to be the stock from which those *Americans* are derived. The *Tschutski* again, from that fine race of *Tartars*, the *Kabardinski*, or inhabitants of *Kabarda*.

But about *Prince William's Sound* begins a race, chiefly distinguished by their dress, their canoes, and their instruments of the chace, from the tribes to the south of them. Here commences the *Eskimaux* people, or the race known by that name in the high latitudes of the eastern side of the continent. They may be divided into two varieties. At this place they are of the largest size. As they advance northward they decrease in height, till they dwindle into the dwarfish tribes which occupy some of the coasts of the *Icy Sea*, and the maritime parts of *Hudson*'s bay, of *Greenland*, and *Terra de Labrador*. The famous *Japanese* map places some

ſome iſlands ſeemingly within the ſtreights of BERING, on which is beſtowed the title of *Ya Zue*, or the kingdom of *the dwarfs*. Does not this in ſome manner authenticate the chart, and give us reaſon to ſuppoſe that *America* was not unknown to the *Japaneſe*, and that they had (as is mentioned by *Kæmpfer* and *Charlevoix*) made voyages of diſcovery; and, according to the laſt, actually wintered on the continent? That they might have met with the *Eſkimaux* is very probable; whom, in compariſon of themſelves, they might juſtly diſtinguiſh by the name of *dwarfs*. The reaſon of their low ſtature is very obvious: theſe dwell in a moſt ſevere climate, amidſt penury of food; the former in one much more favourable, abundant in proviſions; circumſtances that tend to prevent the degeneracy of the human frame. At the iſland of *Oonalaſcha* a dialect of the *Eſkimaux* is in uſe, which was continued along the whole coaſt, from thence northward. I have before mentioned the ſimilarity in the inſtruments between the *Americans* of this ſide of the coaſt and the *Eſkimaux*, which is continued even to *Greenland*.

The continent which ſtocked *America* with the human race, poured in the brute creation through the ſame paſſage. Very few quadrupeds continued in the peninſula of *Kamtſchatka*. I can enumerate only 25 which are inhabitants of land; for I muſt omit the marine animals, which had at all times power of changing their ſituation: all the reſt perſiſted in their migration, and fixed their reſidence in the New World. Seventeen of the *Kamtſchatkan* quadrupeds are found in *America*; others are common only to *Sibiria* or *Tartary*, having, for unknown cauſes, entirely evacuated *Kamtſchatka*, and divided themſelves between *America* and the parts of *Aſia* above cited. Multitudes again have deſerted the Old World, even to an individual, and fixed their ſeats at diſtances moſt remote from the ſpot from which they took their departure; from mount *Ararat*, the reſting-place of the ark, in a central part of the Old World, and excellently adapted for the diſperſion of the animal-creation to all its parts.

Let it not be objected, that animals bred in a ſouthern climate, after the deſcent of their parents from the ark, would be unable to bear the froſt and ſnow of the rigorous north, before they reached *South America*, the place of their final deſtination. It muſt be conſidered, that the migration muſt have been the work of ages; that in the courſe of their progreſs each generation grew hardened to the climate it had reached; and that after their arrival in *America*, they would again be gradually accuſtomed to warmer and warmer climates, in their removal from north to ſouth, as they had in the reverſe, or from ſouth to north. Part of the tigers ſtill inhabit the eternal ſnows of *Ararat*, and multitudes of the very ſame ſpecies live, but with exalted rage, beneath the Line, in the burning ſoil of *Borneo* or *Sumatra*; but neither lions or tigers ever migrated into the New World. A few of the firſt are found in India and Perſia, but they are found in numbers only in *Africa*. The tiger extends as far north as weſtern *Tartary*, in lat. 40. 50, but never has reached *Africa*. I ſhall cloſe this account with obſerving, that it could be from no other part of the globe except *Aſia*, from whence the New World could receive the animal creation.

Arctic Zoology.

Table of Quadrupeds; *exhibiting a View of those which inhabit North America, and are either peculiar to it, or are met with in other Countries;* by T. Pennant.

HOOFED.

Genus.		Old World.	New World.
Ox.	Bison, N° 1.	In parts of *Lithuania*, and about mount *Caucasus;* except there, universally domesticated.	To the west of *Canada*, and as low as *Louisiana*. In *New Mexico*, on the western side of *North America*.
	Musk, 2.	A variety in the interior parts of *Guinea*, and the south of *Africa*. See *Hist. Quad.* i. n° 9.	To the north of *Hudson's Bay*, from *Churchil* river to lat. 73, and among the *Christinaux*, and in *New Mexico*.
Sheep.	Argali,	*Sardinia. Corsica. Crete.* North of *India. Persian Alps*. About the *Onon* and *Argun*, in *Sibiria. Mongalia*, to lat. 60. East of the *Lena*, and quite to *Kamtschatka*.	Suspected to be found in *California;* but not on the best authorities.
Deer.	Moose, 3.	*Norway. Sweden.* to lat. 64. *Russia. Sibiria*, as low as lat. 53. As far east as Lake *Baikal;* and in the north of *China* to the north of *Corea*. lat. 45.	*Hudson's Bay. Canada. Nova Scotia. New England;* and near the northern part of the river *Ohio*.
	Rein, 4.	*Lapland. Norway. Samoiedea*. Along the *Arctic* coasts, to *Kamtschatka*. In the *Urallian* mountains to *Kungur*, in lat. 57. 10. About Lake *Baikal. Spitzbergen. Greenland.*	*Hudson's Bay*. Northern parts of *Canada. Labrador*. Island of *Newfoundland*.
	Stag, 5.	*Norway*, and most part of *Europe* to the south. In the north of *Asia. China. Barbary. E.*	From *Canada*, over all parts of *North America. Mexico.*
	Virginian, 6.	— —	From the provinces south of *Canada* to *Florida*. Perhaps in *Guiana*.
	Mexican Roe, 7.	— —	Interior north-western parts of *America? Mexico.*
	Roe, 8.	*Norway. Sweden.* Most part of *Europe*, except *Russia. Scotland.*	According to *Charlevoix*, in *Canada?*

Di-

DIGITATED.

DIV. I.

Genus.			Old World.	New World.
Dog.	Wolf,	9	From the *Arctic* circle to the most southern part of *Europe*. In *Asia*, from the circle to *Persia*. *Kamtschatka*. All parts of *Africa*.	From *Hudson's Bay* to the most southern parts of *North America*.
	Arctic Fox,	10.	Within the whole *Arctic* circle. *Iceland*. *Spitzbergen*. *Greenland*. *Finmark*. North of *Siberia*. *Kamtschatka*, and its isles.	*Hudson's Bay*. The isles in the high latitudes on the western side of *America*.
	Common Fox,	11.	In all parts of *Europe*, and the cold and temperate parts of *Asia*. *Kamtschatka*, and its furthest isles. *Iceland*. *E*.	From *Hudson's Bay*, cross the continent to the *Fox Isles*. *Labrador*. *Newfoundland*. *Canada*. Not further south: a variety only, the Brandt Fox, in *Pensylvania*.
	Grey,	12.	— —	From *New England* to the southern end of *North America*.
	Silvery,	13.	— —	In *Louisiana*.
Cat.	Puma *,	14.	— —	From *Canada* to *Florida*; thence through *Mexico*, quite to *Quito* in *Peru*.
	Lynx,	15.	Forests of the north of *Europe*, and many of the south. *Spain*. North of *Asia*, and the mountains in the north of *India*.	From *Canada*, over most parts of *North America*.
	Bay Lynx,	16.	— —	In the province of *New York*.
	Mountain,	17.	— —	*Carolina*, and perhaps other parts of *North America*.
Bear.	Polar,	18.	Within the whole polar circle of *Europe* and *Asia*.	The same in *America*; also as low as *Hudson's Bay* and *Labrador*.
	Black,	19.	*Jeso Masima*, north of *Japan*; perhaps in *Japan*.	In all parts of *North America*.
	Brown,	20.	In most parts of *Europe*, north and south. The same in *Asia*, even as	To the north-west of *Hudson's Bay*, and on the western side of *America*.

* Mistaken by some for the Lion.

Genus.		Old World.	New World.
		Arabia. Barbary. Ceylon. Kamtſchatka.	*merica.* About *Nootka Sound.* On the *Andes* of *Peru.*
	Wolverene, 21	North of *Norway. Lapland.* North of *Sibiria. Kamtſchatka.*	As far north as the *Copper River*, and ſouth as the country between lake *Huron* and *Superior.* On the weſtern ſide of *North America.*
	Raccoon, 22.	— —	From *New England* to *Florida. Mexico.* Iſles of *Maria*, near *Cape Corientes*, in the *South Sea.*
Badger.	23.	In the ſouth of *Norway*, and all the more ſouthern parts of *Europe.* In the temperate parts of *Aſia*, as far as *China* eaſtward. *E.*	In the neighbourhood of *Hudſon's Bay. Terra de Labrador*, and as low as *Penſylvania.*
Oppossum.	*Virginian*, 24.	— —	As far north as *Canada*, and from thence to the *Braſils* and *Peru.*
Weesel,	Common, 25.	Moſt parts of *Europe. Sibiria. Kamtſchatka. Barbary. E.*	*Hudſon's Bay. Newfoundland.* As far ſouth as *Carolina.*
	Stoat, 26.	All the northern parts of *Europe* and *Aſia*; and as far as *Kamtſchatka* and the *Kuril* iſles. *E.*	*Hudſon's Bay*, and as low as *Newfoundland* and *Canada.*
	Pine Martin, 27.	North of *Europe.* Rare in *France.* Only in the weſt of *Sibiria.* In *China. E.*	Northern parts of *North America*, quite to the *South Sea.*
	Pekan, 28.	— —	*Hudſon's Bay. Canada.*
	Viſon, 29.	— —	*Canada.*
	Sable, 30.	*Sibiria. Kamtſchatka. Kuril* iſles.	*Canada.*
	Fiſher, 31.	— —	*Hudſon's Bay. New England. Penſylvania.*
	Striated, 32.	— —	*Penſylvania* to *Louiſiana.*
	Skunk, 33.	— —	From *Hudſon's Bay* to *Peru.*
Otter.	Common, 34.	Northern *Europe* and *Aſia. Kamtſchatka. E.*	From *Hudſon's Bay* to *Louiſiana.*
	Leſſer, 35.	About the banks of the *Yaik. Poland. Lithuania. Finland.*	From *New Jerſey* to *Carolina.*
	Sea, 36.	*Kamtſchatka. Kuril* iſles.	Weſtern coaſts of *America*;

DIV. II.

Genus.			Old World.	New World.
Hare.	Varying,	37.	*Scandinavia. Ruſſia. Sibiria. Kamtſchatka. Greenland.* E.	*Hudſon's Bay.* About Cook's river.
	American,	38	— —	From *Hudſon's Bay* to the extremity of *North America.*
	Alpine,	39.	From the *Altaic* chain to lake *Baikal;* thence to *Kamtſchatka.*	*Aleutian* iſles. Poſſibly the weſt of *North America.*
Beaver.	Caſtor,	40	*Scandinavia.* About the *Jeneſei* and *Kondu.* In *Caſan,* and about the *Yaik.*	From *Hudſon's Bay* to *Louiſiana.*
	Muſk,	41.	— —	From *Hudſon's Bay* to *Louiſiana.*
Porcupin	*Canada,*	42	— —	From *Hudſon's Bay* to *Virginia.*
Marmot.	*Quebec,*	43.	— —	*Canada.*
	Maryland	44	— —	From *Penſylvania* to the *Bahama* iſles.
	Hoary,	45.	— —	North of *North America.*
	Tail-leſs,	46.	— —	*Hudſon's Bay.*
	Earleſs,	47.	*Bohemia. Auſtria. Hungary* From the *Occa* over the temperate parts of *Sibiria.* About *Jakutz. Kamtſchatka.*	Weſtern ſide of *North America.*
Squirrel.	*Hudſon,*	48.	— —	*Hudſon's Bay. Labrador.*
	Grey,	49.	— —	*New England* to *Peru* and *Chili.*
	Black,	50,	— —	*New England* to *Mexico.*
	Flying,	51.	— —	From the ſouthern part of *Hudſon's Bay* to *Mexico.*
	Hooded,	52.	— —	*Virginia.*
	Severn river,	53.	— —	*Hudſon's Bay.*
Dormouse.	Striped,	54	*Sibiria,* as high as lat. 65	*Hudſon's Bay* to *Louiſiana.*
	Engliſh?	55.	*Sweden,* and all *Europe,* ſouth. *E. Carolina?*	
	Black,	56.	All *Europe.* Many of the *South Sea* iſlands. *E.*	The rocks among the *Blue Mountains.*
	American,	58.	*Mongolia.*	*North America.*
	Water,	59.	From *Lapland* to the ſouth of *Europe.* From *Peterſburgh* to *Kamtſchatka,* and as low as the *Caſpian* ſea, and *Perſia. E.*	From *Canada* to *Carolina.*
	Mouſe,	60.	Univerſal. *E.*	Among the rocks, with the Black Rat.

Genus.		Old World.	New World.
	Field, 61.	All *Europe*. Not beyond the *Urallian* chain. *E.*	*Hudſon's Bay. New York.*
	Virginian, 62.	— —	*Virginia.*
	Labrador, 63.	— —	*Hudſon's Bay. Labrador.*
	Hudſon's, 64.	— —	Same places.
	Meadow, 65.	*Sweden.* All tempetate *Ruſſia.* In *Sibiria* only to the *Irtiſch*. *E.*	*Hudſon's Bay. Newfoundland.*
	Hare-tailed, 66.	*Sibiria.*	*Hudſon's Bay.*
Shrew.	Fetid, 67.	*Europe. Sibiria Kamtſchatka. E.*	*Hudſon's Bay. Carolina.*
Mole.	Long-tailed, 68.	— —	*New York.* Interior parts of *Hudſon's Bay.*
	Radiated, 69.	— —	*New York.*
	Brown, 70.	— —	*N w York.*
		DIV. III.	
Walrus.	*Arctic*, 71.	*Spitzbergen. Greenland. Nova Zemlja.* The coaſt of the *Frozen Sea.* And on the *Aſiatic* ſide, to the ſouth of *Bering*'s ſtreights, as low as lat. 62. 50.	*Hudſon's Bay.* Gulph of St *Laurence.* On the weſtern ſide of *America*, as low as lat. 58. 42.
Seal.	Common, 72.	All the *European* and northern *Aſiatic* ſeas, even to the fartheſt north *Kamtſchatka*. *E.*	Northern ſeas of *America.*
	Great, 73.	*Greenland* and *Kamtſchatka. E.*	Weſt of *North America.*
	Leporine, 75.	*White Sea. Iceland. Spitzbergen. Kamtſchatka.*	There can be no doubt that every ſpecies of Seal is found on the *American* coaſt.
	Harp, 77.	*Spitzbergen. Greenland. Iceland. White Sea Kamtſchatka.*	
	Urſine, 79.	*Kamtſchatka. New Zealand.*	Weſt of *America*, and from the iſle of *Gallipagos* to *New Georgia.*
	Leonine, 80.	*Kamtſchatka.*	Weſt of *America.* Streights of *Magellan. Statenland. Falkland* iſles.
Manati.	Whale-tailed, 81.	*Bering*'s iſle, and near the iſle of St *Mauritius*,	Weſt of *America.*
	Sea Ape,	— —	Weſt of *America.*
		DIV IV.	
Bat.	*New York*, 82.	*New Zealand.*	*New York.*
	Long-haired, 83.	— —	*Carolina.*
	Noctule, 84.	*France. E.*	*Hudſon's Bay.*

Observations on the present State of Egypt; by M. SAVARY, *who has lately published an Account of his Travels in that Country.*

EVERY thing which regards Egypt is eagerly sought after by the learned, and as eagerly received by the public, especially if it be the relation of an enlightened traveller; who to the knowledge he has acquired at home, joins that of the language of the country which he surveys.

Upon viewing the superb monuments which Egypt still possesses, the traveller cannot fail to contemplate, with admiration, the greatness of a people, whose works alone of all the nations of antiquity have braved the ravages of time; of a people, who seemed to labour only for immortality, and from whom Orpheus, Homer, Herodotus, Plato, derived all that knowledge with which they enriched their country.

Egypt, as every body knows, is divided into Upper and Lower. In this last division is situated the Delta. Of old it was fertilized by means of canals, which are now dried up; it is now nothing but a sandy desart; and through the whole extent of that Delta, formerly so renowned, only a few wretched hamlets are to be seen, surrounded with date-trees and barren fields. The *lotos* is still found there; and this plant serves for food to those who dwell on the banks of the lake of Menes. The calibash is also seen there, and sugar-canes; but these last do not seem to be the natural production of the country.

Alexandria is now no longer what it was formerly. In ancient times, a number of fine streets ran exactly parallel to each other; one of them is said to have been no less than 2000 feet in breadth, and beautified on both sides with temples, public buildings, and splendid palaces. Even under the dominion of the Arabs it retained considerable remains of its ancient magnificence. At present it is a petty village, containing about 6000 inhabitants. Here, however, are still to be seen vaulted cisterns, almost entire, after a period of near 2000 years; also two obelisks, and five marble pillars, one of red granite. From Alexandria to Rosetta, for the space of two leagues, nothing meets the eye but rubbish; on one side, the sea; on the other, sandy plains: some date-trees, scattered here and there, interrupt the melancholy uniformity of these arid plains, where the Arab conducts his flock. The whole country is much changed; and what was formerly an island, is now part of the continent.

Continuing your route along the Nile, the fertile plains begin to appear. The girls are seen coming down from the villages to draw water and to wash their linen. There they often in great numbers strip themselves naked.—The banks are covered with their clothes and their pitchers. They besmear their bodies with the mud of the Nile, then plunge into the river, and wantonly sport about in the water. Many of them came swimming along side of our boat, calling out for *a piece of money*. They swim with a great deal of grace, while their hair, falling in ringlets, floats luxuriantly about their neck and shoulders. Their skin is of a clear brown colour; their complexion swarthy; and most of them are exceedingly handsome and well proportioned.

It is at Grand Cairo that the Mussulman, the prey of ignorance, believes himself the most exalted being in the universe; and heartily despises every one who does not adopt his creed. This city is of modern date; and till the 15th century was one of the richest and most flourishing

ing capitals in the world. Within its circumference you can reckon nearly 300 moſques; ſeveral of them with minorets, or very elevated ſpires, that produce a fine effect. The caſtle is ſituated on a ſteep rock; and, until the invention of gun-powder, was deemed impregnable. Here were ſituated the palaces of the Egyptian ſultans, now almoſt buried in ruins. Cupolas overthrown, numbers of gildings and paintings, whoſe colours have withſtood the attacks of time, with a few proud columns of marble ſtill ſtanding, but moſt of them greatly damaged, is all that remains of its ancient magnificence. The baſha reſides in a large building of mean appearance. He is the repreſentative of the Grand Signor; but the powerful Beys hold him as a priſoner. The authority which theſe Beys aſſume, and the deſpotiſm which they exerciſe, have baniſhed the arts and ſciences from this delightful country; nothing now is ſeen but an ignorant and barbarous populace, who trample them under their feet.

In a Turkiſh family, the father enjoys all the titles which nature has given him. He is their ſovereign, their judge, their prieſt; he commands, he is the arbiter of their diſputes. The children are brought up in the apartments of the women, and are never ſeen in the hall, eſpecially when there are ſtrangers; the young people appear, but obſerve the ſtricteſt ſilence: the full grown men may mingle in converſation, but they are ſilent the moment the head of the family or ſcheic begins to ſpeak: They riſe when he enters an aſſembly; the ſeat of honour is yielded to him in all public places, and he every where meets with the moſt marked conſideration and reſpect. Theſe antique manners have been preſerved in this country, while they have been totally loſt among more poliſhed nations. The Egyptian is ignorant of our arts and ſciences; but the delicious ſentiments of nature, ſentiments which are not taught by books, theſe he knows, theſe he reveres, and enjoys.

Egypt, like Italy, has her *improviſatori;* and they form there a celebrated ſociety: they are ſtyled *Almes* or *Learned Ladies.* To be admitted into this ſociety, it is neceſſary to poſſeſs a fine voice, to know the language accurately, to underſtand the rules of poetry; and to be able to compoſe and ſing *extempore*, couplets adapted to the ſituation. Theſe girls know by heart all the new ſongs, and a vaſt number of elegies. There is no kind of feſtival or rejoicing to which they are not invited. They are placed in a gallery, where they ſing during the whole time of the entertainment; they then deſcend into the hall, and amuſe the company with dancing to the ſound of muſical inſtruments. They are alſo called into the *harams*, where they entertain the women with their ſongs, poems, and geſtures.

The women are confined in the boſom of their family; the circle of their life does not extend beyond domeſtic occupations. The education of their children is their firſt duty; of theſe they are all deſirous of having a great number, becauſe the more they have the more they are eſteemed; even the beggar lifts his eyes to heaven, and prays for a numerous poſterity. When the women are barren, they have recourſe to adoption. They generally ſuckle their own children; but when circumſtances oblige them to hire a nurſe, ſhe is not regarded as a ſtranger, ſhe becomes a member of the family, and paſſes the reſt of her days in the midſt of thoſe children whom ſhe has nouriſhed: ſhe is honoured by them, and cheriſhed like a ſecond mother.

The Egyptian women, though for the moſt part timorous and mild, become bold and violent when any ſtrong affection has taken poſſeſſion of

of their hearts: then neither bolts, nor guards, nor even death itſelf, though it were to ſtare them in the face, is ſufficient to reſtrain them from endeavouring to accompliſh their deſigns.

Two leagues ſouth of the pyramids is a little village called *Menf*, where was ſituated the ancient Memphis. It is about ſix leagues from Grand Cairo: there are ſtill to be found ſome monuments and remains of thoſe lakes which are mentioned by Herodotus and Strabo. The inhabitants of Memphis were obliged to croſs theſe lakes, in order to tranſport their dead into the plains where the kings had erected their tombs. The beauty of the plains which are beyond this vaſt deſart of ſand, the canals which water them and preſerve a perpetual verdure, furniſhed to the Greeks their images of Styx, Lethé, and the Elyſian Fields.

Almoſt all the writers upon Egypt have confounded the ancient Damietta with the modern. The preſent city is not that which was taken by St Louis. The Arabs, fatigued with guarding a place which drew upon them the arms of the moſt warlike nations of Europe, deſtroyed it from the foundation, and rebuilt it higher up the country.

L'Année Litteraire.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES *of* CELEBRATED MUSICIANS.

Nº 5. ALFONSO FERABOSCO.

ALFONSO FERABOSCO is ſaid to have been born at Greenwich in Kent, of Italian parents *. Although he is ranked among the firſt muſicians of Queen Elizabeth's time, he does not appear to have arrived at any academical honours in the faculty of muſic, or to have had any employment in the Chapel Royal.

He appears to have lived in great friendſhip with Bird.—Morley ſays, that in a virtuous contention betwixt them, they made above forty waies, as he terms it, upon the plain ſong of a certain *miſerere*, and could have made infinite more at their pleaſure.—Peacham alſo ſpeaks of another between the ſame perſons, who ſhould beſt ſet the words of a certain ditty, "The nightingale ſo pleaſant and ſo gay;" in which Feraboſco ſucceeded ſo well, that in the judgment of Peacham, this compoſition, and another of his, "I ſaw my lady weeping," for five voices, cannot be bettered for ſweetneſs of air and depth of judgment. They are both printed in the *Muſica Tranſalpina*.

He had a ſon of the ſame Chriſtian name, who is often miſtaken for him.

Alfonſo the elder was the author of a book with this ſimple title, "Aires by Alfonſo Feraboſco," printed in folio 1609, to which are prefixed commendatory verſes by Ben Johnſon and Dr Thomas Campion.

Dr John Bull.

JOHN BULL was born in Somerſetſhire about the year 1563, and, as it is ſaid, was of the Somerſet family†.

He was educated under William Blytheman, one of the organiſts of Queen Elizabeth's chapel; whoſe performance on the organ was greatly admired, though his merit as a muſician cannot now be known, there being none of his compoſitions extant

Bull having practiſed the faculty of muſic for 14 years, was admitted Bachelor of Muſic in the univerſity of

* Hawk. Hiſt. iii. 315.

† Ibid. 318.

of Oxford 9th July 1586 *. In 1592 he was incorporated Doctor of Music in that university, having taken his degree in the university of Cambridge, according to Wood, on account of his meeting with clowns and rigid puritans in the university of Oxford, who could not endure church-music †.

Dr Bull was appointed organist in the Queen's Chapel in 1591. on the death of his master Blytheman ‡.

He was the first Gresham professor of music. However skilful he may have been in his profession, we have no great reason to have a high opinion of his learning. The lectures to be read by the professors in that college, being ordered by the ordinances made in 1597 to be read both in Latin and English, an exception is made with respect to Dr Bull, who did not understand Latin. These ordinances are preserved at large in Strype's edition of Stow, vol. ii. app. 2. p. 2. and also in the Preface to Ward's Lives of the Gresham Professors. What relates to the music-lecture is in these words: "The solemn music is to be read twice every week, in manner following, viz. the theorique part for half an hour, or thereabouts; and the practique by concert of voices or of instruments for the rest of the hour; whereof the first lecture to be in the Latin tongue, the second in the English tongue. The days appointed for the solemn lectures of music are Thursday and Saturday, (afterwards altered to Saturday in the law terms) in the afternoon, between the hours of three and four; and because at this time Mr Doctor Bull is recommended to the place by the Queen's most excellent Majesty, being not able to speak Latin, his lectures are permitted to be altogether in English so long as he shall continue the music-lecturer there."

In the year 1601, he went abroad for the recovery of his health, which at that time was declining.—During his absence, he was permitted to substitute Thomas Bird, a son of William Bird, to read the music-lecture for him in Gresham college ||.

He travelled incognito into France and Germany §. He is said to have met with a famous musician belonging to a certain cathedral at St Omers, to whom he applied himself as a novice to learn something of his art.—After having some discourse with him, the musician conducted Bull to a vestry or music-school, where he showed him a lesson or song in 40 parts; and then made a vaunting challenge to any person in the world to add one part more to it.—Bull desired the use of pen, ink, and musical paper; prayed the musician to lock him up in the school for two or three hours.—The musician having done so, not without great disdain, Bull, in that or less time, added 40 parts more. The musician being called in, viewed it, tried, and retried it; at last he burst into a great ecstasy, and swore by the great God, "that he that added these 40 parts, must either be the Devil or Dr Bull."——Whereupon, says Wood, Bull discovering himself, the musician fell down and adored him **.

Whilst he continued abroad, his performances became so much admired, that he was courted to accept of any place or preferment suitable to his profession, either within the dominions of the Emperor, the King of France, or the King of Spain:—but the English court having got notice of these transactions, he was ordered home by Elizabeth ††.

On Queen Elizabeth's death he was appointed chief organist to King James I. ‡‡; and he was also in the service of Prince Henry, his name standing first in the list of that Prince's

* Fasti. † Ibid. ‡ Hist. iii. 318. || Ibid. 319. § Fasti. ** Ibid. †† Ibid. ‡‡ Fasti, 1592. Ward's Lives of the Gresham Professors.

Prince's muſicians in 1611, with a ſalary of 40l. *per annum* *.

On the 16th January 1607, being free of the Merchant Taylors Company, he had the honour to entertain his Majeſty and Prince Henry, who that day dined with the Company at Merchant Taylors hall, "with excellent melodie upon a ſmall pair of organs, placed there for that purpoſe onlie †."

In 1613, Bull quitted England, and went to reſide in the Netherlands, where he was admitted into the ſervice of the Archduke ‡. Wood ſays he died at Hamburgh, or rather, as others, who remembered the man, have ſaid, at Lubec ‖. His picture is yet remaining in the muſic ſchool at Oxford.

The only works of Bull in print, are leſſons in the collection called "Parthenia."—An anthem of his, "Deliver me, O God," is to be found in Barnard's Collection of Church Muſic.

A long liſt of compoſitions, both vocal and inſtrumental, by Dr Bull in the collection of Dr Pepuſch, are given by Dr Ward.

From ſome of the leſſons in the Parthenia, we are led to form a high idea of his powers of execution. Dr Pepuſch placed his leſſons in a very high rank, not only for the harmony and contrivance, but for the air and modulation. He was poſſeſſed of a collection of them, in a book very richly bound, which had once belonged to Queen Elizabeth. Many of them were ſo very difficult, that hardly any maſter of the Doctor's time could play them.—Dr Pepuſch having married the famous opera-ſinger Signora Margarita De la Pine, who had a very fine hand on the harpſichord, he prevailed on her to practiſe theſe leſſons; in which ſhe ſucceeded ſo well, as to excite the curioſity of numbers to reſort to his houſe to hear them. There are no remaining evidences of her unwearied application in order to attain that degree of excellence, which it is known ſhe arrived at, but the book itſelf yet in being; which in ſome parts of it is ſo diſcoloured with perpetual uſe, as to enable us to diſtinguiſh with the utmoſt degree of certainty the very leſſons with which ſhe was moſt delighted §.

L.

On the Nomenclature of Ships.

SIR,

IN giving names to the ſhips of the royal navy, I conceive that the original intention muſt have been, either to compliment ſome hero of our own time; or, by affixing to a ſhip the name of an ancient warrior, to keep ſeamen perpetually in remembrance of his virtues; or, laſtly, to keep them in remembrance of ſome virtue.

Taking the matter in this light, Sir, I will venture to ſay, in oppoſition even to the gentlemen of *oppoſition*, that no nation ever poſſeſſed a navy equal to ours. We have every hero great, or good, or good for nothing, that ever exiſted in hiſtory or fable, or in the poet's brain, which you know, Sir, has long been a noted repoſitory for ideal perfection and ſpiritual wonders.

In the firſt place, Sir, to begin with the gods and goddeſſes, we have of them as follows: *Mars*, *Jupiter*, *Eolus*, *Juno*, *Minerva*, *Venus*, and a few more, who may be ſpoken with any time at the point at Portſmouth. Nay, have we not in our ſervice *Cerberus*, the keeper of Hell; and *Cha-*

* Appendix to the Life of Henry Prince of Wales by Dr Birch. † Ward's Lives. ‡ Ibid. ‖ Faſti, 1592. § Hawk. Hiſt. iii. 322.

Charon, the Stygian boatman? To be ſure we have employed both theſe rather too much during the laſt war. *Thunder* and *Lightning* too have been occaſionally employed; but I am ſorry to find that *Providence* is at preſent *not in commiſſion*.

By a happy contrivance, we have formed alliances with ſome of the greateſt heroes of antiquity—a ſcheme particularly prudent at a time like this, when heroes are ſo ſcarce; we have *Ajax*, *Alfred*, *Hector*, *Romulus*, &c. and even *Alexander* ſerves a better purpoſe than to be *bung* to a beer-barrel, which you know Shakeſpeare makes him.

The ladies, too, Sir, ſeem altogether to have ſhaken off the effeminacy of the ſex; and although the *Prince of Wales* be *out of commiſſion*; yet it is well known *Admiral Rowley* was never able to do any thing without the aſſiſtance of the *Princeſs Royal*, who uſually carries *ninety-eight* arguments in favour of her country.

Nor is the *Princeſs Amelia* behind hand, as *Captain Macartney* can teſtify. We have an *Amazon* too in our ſervice—and Queen *Elizabeth* again joins with her friend *Raleigh* to protect our coaſts.

Then as for *virtues*. We ſend, againſt the French, ſhips which are *Formidable*, *Inflexible*, *Intrepid*, *Invincible*, and *Magnificent*, and they afford us *Defence*; and by uſing *Diligence* and *Reſolution*, procure *Fame* and *Triumph*. *Vengeance* is likewiſe in our power; and there is a *Reſource*, which the French cannot deprive us of. We have *Aſſurance* of *Victory*—and, in imitation of our northern neighbours, we have even uſed *Sulphur* to annoy our enemies.

Laſtly Sir, for I mean not to take up much of your valuable time, be pleaſed to ſee what a precious collection of *wild beaſts* his Majeſty has been pleaſed to let looſe among his foes; the *Buffalo*, *Centaur*, *Dragon*, *Antelope*, *Camel*, *Dromedary*, and *Porcupine*, with many others.

Let no man deſpair then. It is impoſſible that a country ſhould fall, while protected by *gods*, *heroes*, *devils*, *ladies*, *virtues*, and *wild beaſts*.

I am, &c.

NOMENCLATOR.

Extraordinary inſtance of maternal Affection in a ſavage Animal, to which ſeveral of the Gentlemen and Seamen belonging the CARCASS *Frigate, which went out a ſhort time ſince to make Diſcoveries towards the North Pole, were eye-witneſſes.*

WHILE the Carcaſs was locked in the ice, early one morning the man at the maſt-head gave notice, that three bears were making their way very faſt over the frozen ocean, and were directing their courſe towards the ſhip. They had, no doubt, been invited by the ſcent of ſome blubber of a ſea-horſe the crew had killed a few days before, which had been ſet on fire, and was burning on the ice at the time of their approach. They proved to be a ſhe-bear and her two cubs; but the cubs were nearly as large as the dam. They ran eagerly to the fire, and drew out from the flames part of the fleſh of the ſea-horſe that remained unconſumed, and eat it voraciouſly. The crew from the ſhip threw great lumps of the fleſh of the ſea-horſe, which they had ſtill left, upon the ice; which the old bear fetched away ſingly, laid every lump before her cubs as ſhe brought it, and dividing it, gave each a ſhare, reſerving but a ſmall portion to herſelf. As ſhe was fetching away the laſt piece, they levelled their muſkets at the cubs, and ſhot them both dead; and, in her retreat, they wounded the dam, but not mortally. It would have drawn tears of pity from any but unfeeling minds, to have marked the affec-

tionate concern expreſſed by this poor beaſt in the dying moments of her expiring young. Though ſhe was ſorely wounded, and could but juſt crawl to the place where they lay, ſhe carried the lump of fleſh ſhe had fetched away, as ſhe had done the others before, tore it in pieces, and laid it down before them; and when ſhe ſaw that they refuſed to eat, ſhe laid her paws firſt upon one, and then upon the other, and endeavoured to raiſe them up: all this while it was pitiful to hear her moan. When ſhe found ſhe could not ſtir them, ſhe went off; and when ſhe had got at ſome diſtance, looked back and moaned; and that not availing her to entice them away, ſhe returned, and ſmelling round them, began to lick their wounds. She went off a ſecond time as before; and having crawled a few paces, looked again behind her, and for ſome time ſtood moaning. But ſtill, her cubs not riſing to follow her, ſhe returned to them again, and, with ſigns of inexpreſſible fondneſs, went round one, and round the other, pawing them and moaning. Finding at laſt they were cold and lifeleſs, ſhe raiſed her head towards the ſhip, and growled a curſe upon the murderers, which they returned with a volley of muſquet-balls. She fell between her cubs, and died licking their wounds.

NUPTIAL DIALOGUES.

Dialogue Firſt.

SCENE—*A parlour, Mr* MERITAL *reading.*

Enter a Servant.

SIR, my miſtreſs wonders you do not dreſs for the opera to-night —ſhe waits you.

The opera to-night!—what, again? —tell her it is not in my power: I have been from home theſe ſix nights, and until five o'clock the day following, at her operas and routs, and one thing or other; my head is quite confuſed.—Tell her I'd be obliged to her if ſhe would put it off.

Yes, Sir, [*Exit Servant.*

Merital ſolus. This it is to be married: O! Flavia, was it for this I ſacrificed my eaſe, my pleaſures, my wonted ſociety, to gain your affections; and have you beſtowed them on diſſipation without end, or gratifications without ſatisfaction, on variety without entertainment? But here ſhe comes. What, my dear Mrs Merital, are you really going to the opera to-night?

Certainly, Mr Merital; and I am ſurpriſed to find you refuſe to accompany me——you might have ſent me a civil anſwer by the maid.

I know not, my dear, how the maid may have reported my anſwer; but it was civilly to this purpoſe, that my health is inſufficient to ſerve me for life, if I purſue pleaſure at the rate I have done ſome time paſt.

You make a deal to do about your health—do not I go through as much fatigue? Is my health the worſe for it?

If you would liſten to reaſon, I ſhould tell you that it is. Are not the roſes faded from your cheek; have not your eyes loſt their luſtre, your ſhape its fullneſs and elegance, and your mind its happineſs in itſelf?

O Lord! now I am to be teaſed with the old cant—well, you may do as you pleaſe. *Lady Wakeful* has a route to-night after the opera; and if you do not chooſe to accompany me, you may ſtay at home and romp with the maids.

You are pleaſant, my dear; but rally

rally as you please——if I could only prevail with you to take some pleasure in domestic retirement.

O! no—no—no—my pleasures are foreign.

Yes, Madam, they *are* foreign—foreign to your peace and mine—and foreign to the purpose for which I married you.

Poor soul! what a passion it is in. Why don't you engage to play tragedy at Drury-lane? you might turn a penny that way.

There is no great occasion to go to Drury-lane—I have tragedy enough at home. Pray, what company have you at her Ladyship's to-night?

The usual set, I believe—I think they say Sir *George Gosling* is to be there, your new acquaintance.

My new acquaintance! I never saw the gentleman in my life but one night at the opera, when he was so officious about you; and I care not much if I never see him again.

He is very polite.

He is an arrant coxcomb.

He pays the greatest attention to the ladies—

Who, I'll be sworn, pay very little attention to him.

Your pardon, Mr Merital, you are mistaken.

Am I? Then the ladies are worse than I took them to be. I wish the gentleman would confine his attention to the unmarried part of your sex.

Surely, when you are so fashionable an husband as never to be seen with your wife, you have no cause to complain, if———

Harkee, Mrs Merital, I am sorry to say it—but wives, now a-days, go to company where a man of sense would blush to be found.

Well, you seem so happy in your own opinion, that I think it would be cruel to deprive you of it—You have no commands?

Commands, Madam! no; I never *commanded*. I have intreated, indeed; but to little purpose.

Because what you have asked is unreasonable.

I've done, Madam, I've done. Go to your favourite amusements, and leave the house and husband whom you despise.

Dialogue Second.

FILL me another dish of tea—

You don't seem well, Mr Lovemore.

Don't I?—do as I bid you.

You are always sick, my dear, after having spent the evening with Sir Harry Bumper—you complained of the wine the last time you were with him.

Did I?—then I was d—n'd impertinent; and in that, wife, you and I agree.

I am sorry you think me impertinent, Mr Lovemore—

I am sorry too, Mrs Lovemore; but every man has his trials.

I am sure, my dear, I have never deviated from the strict attention of a fond wife.

Ay, there's the curse—a fond wife is a troublesome thing.

I think, my dear, that if I may judge by comparison, my fondness does not exceed the bounds which make fondness agreeable. I am neither too officious, nor affectedly negligent.

I wish to God you would hold your tongue.

The time was, my dear, when my tongue would not have been stopped by you at least.

I'll be d—n'd if all the men in the kingdom can stop it, when once it is set a-going—Hand me the toast —D—nation! is this the way to serve toast—burnt as black as a parish bible?

My dear Mr Lovemore, it is as you always have it, and choose it.

Then, once for all, I'll have none of it—

Would you choose any thing else?

I am sure I should not have it if I did

Do but mention what you like, my dear Mr Lovemore, and it shall be here in a moment.

Then I like nothing—and let it be here in a moment.

Nay, now, my dear, you are jocular.

I jocular?—pretty time for me to be jocular—D—n Sir Harry's wine —[*Aside.*]

You have no appetite—take another dish of tea.

Tea, do you call it?—rotgut, or I—but it does not signify wasting words. I may as well preach to the monument.

Well, Mr Lovemore, I have done. I will interrupt you no longer—my days of pleasing are over, it seems. But I can remember when I was your goddess, your angel, your heaven.

Yes; but you was not my wife.

That circumstance may have changed you, Mr Lovemore, but I am still the same.

Ay, there is the curse, you never will mend.

Had you been as diligent to point out my failings before marriage, as you were to give me many imaginary qualities, neither of us would have been so egregiously deceived; but in deceiving me you deceived yourself.

Deceive you, ma'am!—d—n ye, what do you mean by that?

Can you deny the charge! Are you the man you were! No—you have lost every sense of tenderness—your heart I hope still is sound, but your head seems to be altered.

I would not advise you to add any thing to my head, however.

Spare your brutality, Mr Lovemore; at least I have not deserved that.

I don't know, not I, what you have deserved—but if every woman got her deserts, many of them would not get husbands.

Say rather, Sir, they *would get* husbands; for surely the severest punishment is a bad husband—Well, Mr Lovemore, you may affect this disrespect for me; but I hope, nay, I am sure, you still have that sincerity which you professed for me, when you guarded every look and every word—I was then your oracle.

My oracle—yes—faith I believe you were, for you never gave me a direct answer in your life.

O! my dear, would you but imitate the amiable pattern set by Sir George Belmont—he is a husband indeed!

Harkee, wife, I desire you to forbear visits in that house. Lady Belmont is a captious, censorious, d—n'd tattling gipsey—and Sir George a mere milk-sop.

Forbear my visits!

Yes, Madam, forbear your visits; I have my reasons for it.

You know, my dear Mr Lovemore, I comply in every instance with your pleasure. If it can be any satisfaction to you, I will forbear my visits to that amiable family.

Amiable fiddlesticks! I don't know what your *amiable families*, as you call them, are fit for.

Do you dine at home, my dear?

Yes; I dine with Lord Squander at his country-seat, and there I shall be *quite at home*.

Then I suppose I need not expect you until evening.

No.

When may I expect the pleasure of your company?

Whenever you are disposed to take pleasure in it.

I am sure, my dear, there is no company I prize so highly—on my word there is not—cannot be—But I have lost your confidence—you believe me not.

Ay;

Ay; it would be a fine world indeed, if one were to believe every thing a woman ſays.

I hope, my dear, you can recollect no inſtance in which my actions and my words did not correſpond.

Words and actions! God knows I have enough of your words and actions. [*Riſing.*

So you are going, my dear?

Going; what ſhould I do ſtaying?

Well, I wiſh you a pleaſant day—but wont you come home in time for the concert—your favourite performer will be there.

Pſhaw; d—n your concerts.

I can recollect, Mr. Lovemore, when muſic was your favourite amuſement; you then taught me many of your moſt favourite airs.

Egad, that was a ſuperfluous work—you have *airs* enough in all conſcience. [*Exit grumbling.*

T. & C. M.

Letter from the ABBE DE LISLE *at Conſtantinople to Madam ——— at Paris; dated 15th April 1785.*

MADAM,

IT is at once the duty and conſolation of the baniſhed, wherever they are thrown by fate, religiouſly to celebrate the ſolemnities and feaſts of their country. You know how ſacred the Tueſdays have ever been to me. I can no longer celebrate them with you, but I join body and mind with thoſe who enjoy that happineſs. I alſo recall to memory certain Mondays, the objects of very ſcrupulous attention; and the week appears very long, ſince it has thoſe two days leſs in it.

If you take intereſt enough in us to be deſirous of knowing news of our navigation, you will forgive the length and nonſenſe of this leter, and will bear in the lump what you would have borne by pieces on the Tueſdays, if we had remained together. Our voyage was very fortunate. The wind carried us to Malta in five days, by the fineſt ſea, and under the fineſt ſky imaginable. I was very curious to ſee this city; its ſuperb port, its great white walls (which in a week would have made me quite blind), and its fine ſtreets paved with hewn ſtones, which form beautiful ſtaircaſes, by which you aſcend them, ſtruck me with admiration; but I was ſtill more deſirous to be acquainted with its manners and conſtitution.

We left Malta for a more barbarous, but more intereſting country, the beautiful land of Greece; where regrets are at leaſt a little ſoftened by recollections. The firſt iſland we meet with is Cerigo, ſo well known by the name of Cythera. It muſt be allowed, that it ill deſerves its reputation. Our writers of romances and operas would be a little ſurpriſed, if they were to know that this iſland, which is ſo delightful in their writings, is only a barren rock. In truth, he did well who firſt placed the temple of Venus there; for without a little love, there would have been no great amuſement in the place.

The other iſlands deſerve their reputation better; the fruitfulneſs of their ſoil, the advantage of their poſition, the beauty of the ſky, and the ſoftneſs of the climate, heightened by every thing that is intereſting in mythology and hiſtory, preſent one of the moſt ſplendid ſpectacles that ever ſtruck the human eye: but, alas, I could not enjoy it as the reſt did; and all my companions increaſed my affliction, by deſcribing to me the beauties which they ſaw. There, ſaid they, is the country of Sappho;

of Anacreon, of Homer. Alas! I was blind like the latter, and never had felt more cruelly the loss of my sight; still, however, I made shift to make out the situation of places, and saw things a little better than I had done in my books.

Finally, a contrary wind obliged us to put in; if that can be called a contrary wind which gave us time to see Athens.

I will not attempt to give you an idea of the pleasure I experienced on setting foot on this celebrated land. I wept for joy. I saw what I had hitherto only read; I recognized what I had known from infancy; all was at once familiar and new to me; but what I shall never forget is, the sensation I experienced on the sight of the first monument of this ever-interesting country.

You may have observed, Madam, that when we read all the wonders told us of the ancients, a mixture of incredulity, at least of mistrust, creeps in, which spoils our pleasure, and makes us uneasy under our admiration; the very greatness of the things is against them; and we are apt to think that there may be a little more fable than history in what we are told. In consequence of this prepossession, many a traveller has gone into Egypt, with doubt of all that had been told him concerning its ancient magnificence:—but the pyramids are standing; they bear sufficient witness to all the rest; and there is no incredulity which these enormous blocks do not shiver to pieces.

Such were my feelings at Athens. It is less gigantic indeed in its monuments, but more truly great than Egypt. It is true that the manners, the customs, the government, alas! even the city of the Athenians, are only now to be guessed at by a few ruins; yet hardly had I beheld these ruins, than an idea of grandeur impressed itself on all I had not seen, and on all I could no longer see. The three only remaining columns of the temple of Jupiter, rendered every thing I had read of probable to me; so striking are these remains for their magnificence and simplicity. I could never be satisfied with looking on these great and beautiful columns, of the most beautiful marble of Paros; so interesting by their own beauty, by that of the temples they decorated, by the remembrance of the splendid periods they remind us of; and more particularly because the more or less exact imitation of their fine proportions ever has, and ever will be, the just measure of good and bad taste in all times, and with all people. I ran over them, I touched them, I measured them with insatiable avidity: it was in vain that they had fallen, and were falling to ruin; I could not help believing them imperishable. *I trusted to make the fortune of my name, by engraving it on their marble;* but I soon perceived my mistake: these precious remains have more than one enemy, and time is not their most terrible foe. The barbarous ignorance of the Turks sometimes destroys in a day what ages had respected: I saw one of the fine columns I have just been mentioning to you, stretched out before the door of the commandant; an ornament of the temple of Jupiter, was about to decorate his harem! The temple of Minerva, the finest work of antiquity, the magnificence of which made Pericles, who had built it, unable to lay his accounts before his countrymen, is shut up in a citadel, partly built at its expence: we went up to it by a staircase composed of its ruins. As we walked upon basso-relievos, worked by Phidias and Praxiteles, I walked on the edge, or took four steps together, in order not to be an accomplice in this profanation. Near the temple is a magazine of gun-powder, which blew up in the last war with the Venetians, and threw down several

veral columns, which till then had been in perfect preservation. What put me almost out of my senses, was the order given, as we were coming down, to fire the canon, in honour of the ambassador; I was fearful, lest the commotion occasioned in the air should finish the temple, and M. de Choiseul was in a tremour with the honours that were paid him. The temple of Theseus, which, but for some columns that have been moved a little out of the perpendicular by an earthquake, united all the freshness of a new building, to all the interest of the most venerable antiquity, has fallen, as we are told, a prey to the same barbarity. Its beautiful marble pavement, respected by so many ages, and trod by so many great men, has been taken away, by order of the same commandant, who is much too ignorant to know the mischief he is doing.

Besides these temples, one still sees with pleasure 17 columns of fine marble, the remains of 110 which supported, as it is said, the temple of Adrian. Near these is a threshing floor, which is paved with the magnificent ruins of this monument. There one discovers, with infinite grief, numberless fragments of the superb sculpture which adorned the temple.

Between two of these columns, there resided, six years since, a Greek hermit, who was prouder of the homage of the populace, who fed him, than the Miltiades's and Themistocles had ever been of the acclamations of all Greece. The columns themselves call for pity, amidst their magnificence. I asked who had thus mutilated them, for it was easy to see that the devastation was not the bare effects of time; I was told that they made lime of these ruins. I wept for rage.

The same cause of grief obtains all over the city. Not a pillar, not a stair, not a door-threshold, but what is of antique marble, which has been torn by force from some ancient monument. Every where the whim of the modern buildings is a singular contrast to the magnificence of the antique. I saw a mechanic resting a bad deal-board on columns which had supported the temple of Augustus. The courts, public places, and streets, are strewed with these ruins. The walls are built of them. As you walk along the city, you are alternately struck by an interesting inscription, by the epitaph of a great man, the figure of a hero, or a head or foot which belonged to a Minerva or Venus: here the head of a horse which still breathes, there superb Caryatides locked into the wall like common stones. As I was passing along, I saw a marble fountain in a court. This tempted me in, and I found it an ancient sepulchre, ornamented with fine sculpture. This put me on my knees, and I kissed the tomb. Unluckily, in the madness of my admiration, I overturned the pitcher of a child who was laughing at my frolic. The accident turned his laugh into a cry; and as unluckily I had nothing about me to appease him, he would not have been comforted, had not some good-natured Turks threatened to beat him to make him easy.

I must tell you another superstition arising from my love for antiquity. In the first moment of my entering Athens, its smallest relics appeared sacred to me. You know the history of the savage, who had never seen any stones. I did like him. I filled the pockets of my coat, then those of my waistcoat, with fragments of marble; and when I had done, threw them all away like the savage, but with more regret than he. To finish all, the Albanese have lately made a fatal invasion on these coasts. Walls were necessary for defence. Poor antiquity was taxed again; and the defence of the new city cost

coſt the old one more than one treaſure.

Excuſe, Madam, this long account; the dulneſs of which will, I fear, cauſe you to hate the country which I would make you love: but in order to make your peace with it, you will ſoon receive wine from theſe fine iſlands, made of grapes ripened by their fine ſun. Remember me when you drink it with your friends. M. de Choiſeuil deſires your huſband, whom he is better acquainted with than he is with you, to make you accept of a ſmall flaſk of eſſence of roſes. More roſes have gone to make it than there are in all the gardens I have ſung. My unhappy ſight grows dim again; I can write no more, and it makes me a little dull.

Original Letter of the Poet DRYDEN.

MADAME,

IF you have received the lines I ſent by the reverend Levite, I doubt not but they have exceedingly wrought upon you; for beeing ſo long in a clergyman's pocket, aſſuredly they have acquired more ſanctity than theire authour meant them. Alaſſe, Madam! for ought I know, they may become a ſermon 'ere they could arrive at you; and believe it, having you for the text, it could ſcarcely prove bad, if it light upon one that could handle it indifferently. But I am ſo miſerable a preacher, that though I have ſo ſweet and copious a ſubject, I ſtill fall ſhort in my expreſſions; and inſtead of an uſe of thankſgiveing, I am allways makeing one of comfort, that I may one day againe have the happineſſes to kiſſe your faire hand; but that is a meſſage I would not ſo willingly do by letter as by word of mouth. This is a point, I muſt confeſſe, I could willingly dwell longer on; and in this caſe whatever I ſay you may confidently take for goſpell. But I muſt haſten. And indeed, Madame, (beloved I had almoſt ſaid) hee had need haſten who treats of you; for to ſpeake fully to every part of your excellencyes, requires a longer houre then moſt perſons have allotted them. But, in a word, yourſelfe hath been the beſt expoſitor upon the text of your own worth, in that admirable comment you wrote upon it; I mean, your incomparable letter. By all that's good (and you, Madame, are a great part of my oath) it hath put me ſo far beſides myſelfe, that I have ſcarce patience to write proſe, and my pen is ſtealing into verſe every time I kiſſe your letter. I am ſure the poor paper ſmarts for my idolatry, which by wearing it continually neere my breaſt, will at laſt be burnt and martyr'd in thoſe flames of adoration which it hath kindled in me. But I forget, Madame, what rarityes your letter came fraught with beſides words. You are ſuch a deity that commands worſhip by provideing the ſacrifice. You are pleaſed, Madame, to force mee to write, by ſending mee materialls, and compell mee to my greateſt happineſſe. Yet tho' I highly value your magnificent preſente, pardon mee if I muſt tell the world they are but imperfect emblems of your beauty; for the white and red of waxe and paper are but ſhaddowes of that vermillion and ſnowe in your lips and forehead. And the ſilver of the inkhorne, if it preſume to vye in whiteneſſe with your purer ſkinne, muſt confeſſe itſelfe blacker than the liquor it contains. What then do I more then retrieve your own gifts? and preſent you that paper adultered with blotts which you gave ſpotleſſe?

3

For

For since t'was mine the white hath lost its hue,
To show t'was ne'er itself but whilst in you.
The virgin waxe hath blusht itselfe to red
Since it with mee hath lost its maydenhead.
You (fairest nymph) are waxe; oh! may you bee
As well in softnesse as in purity,
Till fate and your own happy choice reveale
Whom you so farre shall blesse to make your seale.

Fairest Valentine, the unfeigned wishe of your humble votary,

JO. DRYDEN.

Camb. May 23. 164..

The King's Cock-Crower.

THERE was, till within the present century, retained within the precincts of the royal palace of Westminster, a solemn officer, styled the *king's cock-crower*; whose duty, during the whole season of Lent, was to *crow* the hour, instead of crying it, as is the practice of watchmen. Whether that venerable function was abolished by the late bill for the reformation, as it was called, of the Royal Household, I am ignorant. I do know that in most seasons, wherein a pretended rage for reformation prevails, many customs, whose origin did in reality aim at reforming our manners and lives, are confounded with abuses, and levelled indiscriminately. The intention of crowing the hour of the night was undoubtedly to remind waking sinners of the august effect the third crowing of the cock had on the guilty apostle St Peter: and the limitation of the custom to the season of Lent was judiciously adopted; as, had the practice continued throughout the year, the impenitent would become as habituated and as indifferent to the crow of the mimic cock, as they are to that of the real one, or to the cry of the watchman. The adaptation to the precincts of the court seems also to have had a view, as if the institutor (probably the Royal Confessor) had considered that the greater and more obdurate sinners resided within the purlieus of the palace.

Many reasons concur for restoring the office of royal cock-crower, if abolished. One is, that it would not now be a sinecure: as we have turned night into day, the officer in question could not sleep on his post. As courtiers, too, do not at present retire to rest till morning, the cock-crower would have much more chance of striking terror into their guilty minds, as happened to St Peter, than by giving his warning to men fast asleep; the only mistake which the institutor seems to have made in so religious an establishment! How awfully would it strike a noble lady, passing through the streets with a row of footmen and torches before her chair, to hear a chanticleer of sonorous lungs crow, "Past four o'clock, and a cloudy morning!" Peter wept; her ladyship might drop a tear.

As the national concerns too are often agitated in the senate past midnight, might not the venerable senators themselves receive devout mementos of their mortality, on meeting in the broad-way at Whitehall, as they return from their duty, a body of cock-crowers iterating the past hour: could we suppose that any of those legislators had, like St Peter, been denying their master; or, like his comrade Judas, been selling their conscience for a bribe? But I recollect, that the office remained in force long since debates lasted past midnight, and even since bribery and corruption had taken root; and yet it is not recorded that any member of either house ever imitated St Peter at the voice of his Majesty's cock-crower, and repented.

I am founded in this bold assertion by an anecdote, dated soon after the accession of the present royal family. On the first Ash-Wednesday at night, as his late Majesty, then Prince of Wales, sat down to supper,

a person advanced, before the chaplain said grace, and crowed, "Past ten o'clock." The astonished prince, not understanding English, and mistaking the tremulation of the crow for mockery, concluded that this ceremony was an insult, and was rising from table in great heat, till informed, that what his Royal Hignefs took for an affront was nothing but an etiquette of the palace, which had been practised in the presence of all preceding Princes, Plantagenets, Tudors, and Stuarts. However, the practice was discontinued from that time within the walls of St James's, and no more performed than our sovereigns wash the feet of the poor on Maunday Thursday in person.

Biographical Desiderata.

I HAVE been lately very much amused with the new edition of the Biographical Dictionary; but was rather disappointed in not finding some account in it of the following writers: *Abercromby*, author of the Martial Atchievements of the Scotch Nation; *Baily*, author of the English Dictionary; *Barber*, *Blind Harry*, Sir *David Lindsay*, *Gawine Dowglas*, *Alexander Montgomerie*, and *Allan Ramsay*, those celebrated Scotch poets; *Maitland*, *Guthrie*, *Ruddiman*; and *Duncan*, who wrote the excellent Treatise of Logic which is published in the *Preceptor*. I do not think every compiler of a book, or writer of a ballad, intitled to a niche in the Temple of Fame; but surely the above writers are eminent enough to be taken notice of in some future edition of the Biographical Dictionary. Perhaps some of your correspondents may contribute materials for that purpose, which can be no where better preserved than in your valuable Magazine. *Abercromby*, if I have not been misinformed, was a physician at *Forfar*. *Guthrie*, the latter part of whose life must have been sufficiently known to the booksellers, was born at *Brechin*, where his father was minister of the episcopal chapel.

Gent. Mag. J. B.

On Warm Colouring.

EVERY one seems to be satisfied that warm colouring is essential to a good picture: but what *is* warm colouring is not determined. Some have joined the idea of warmth to yellow, others to red, others to the compound of both, the orange—they also differ in the degrees of each. A warm picture to some, is cold to others; and *vice versa*. Lambert's idea of warmth, was to make his pictures appear as if they were behind a yellow glass. Vanbloom's have a red glass before them. Both's an orange colour. Each has its admirers, who condemn the rest.

Who shall decide when doctors disagree? Nature. All these hues are right as *particulars*, but wrong as *universals*.

Let us examine the different appearances of light from the dawn to noon. The first break of day is a cold light in the east—this, by degrees, is tinged with purple, which grows redder and redder until the purple is lost in orange—the orange in yellow; and before the sun is two degrees high, the yellow is changed to white. Invert the order of these, and it is the coming on of the evening. All these hues then exist in nature, and one is just as right as the other.

It is necessary to distinguish between the painter's *warmth*, and the sensation. A picture that has most warmth of colouring represents that time of the day when we feel least.

A

A true reprefentation of noon muft have no tinge of yellow or red in the fky; and yet from its being noon, one might be led to imagine it muft be *warm*. It is the critic, and not the artift, which confounds the meaning of thefe terms. In like manner, fummer and winter, in refpect to light, are juft the fame: the fun rifes and fets as gorgeoufly in December, if the weather be clear, as in June. I remember feeing two pictures of Cuyp, companions—one, a cattle-piece in fummer; the other, winter with figures fkaiting. The fky in both was equally *warm*, for which the painter was much cenfured by an auction-connoiffeur, who declared that it was impoffible the fky could be *warm* in winter.

I believe it is a common miftake to apply the red and purple tints to the morning, and the orange and yellow to the evening. We hear pictures of Claude called mornings and evenings, which may be either. It is really odd enough, that there fhould not be a fingle circumftance to diftinguifh the morning from the evening, unlefs it be in a view of a particular place——in this cafe, the reverfing of the light fhows the difference. In a picture, there is no diftinction between going to work, or milking, or returning from it—men ride, drive cattle, are fifhing, &c. as well early as late.

Thefe confiderations fhould foften the peremptory ftyle of fome judges, and extend their tafte, which at prefent feems much confined. We have feen that there are more natural hues than one or two. I will allow them to fay, that a picture is too warm, too cold, too red, too yellow, to pleafe them; but let them not deny that thefe hues are all in nature, and that well-managed they are all picturefque.

Letter from Ruffia, in the Reign of Peter II. By the late Mrs VIGOR. *Never before publifhed.*

DEAR SISTER,

THIS is the laft letter you will be plagued with from the Ruffian Bear till the fummer, as this is the laft fhip for this feafon, and we are now preparing for the winter, and I own that the apparatus frights me. Mr Ward yefterday brought me home fome very handfome fcarlet damafk, I thought, for a night-gown; but before I could thank him, out came, from the fame parcel, a great fur, like a petticoat in fhape, but to all appearance, of a weight that no animal with only two legs could carry. This, he told me, was for a foube, or gown, to travel in, or to wear in any place where ceremony is not required. For more ceremonious occafions there was crimfon velvet, and ermine to line it, for a cloak, and a broad fore-head cloath, of black velvet, lined with fattin, and a muffler under the chin, that is faftened to it on the temples; fo that only eyes, mouth, and nofe are feen. It is fo contrived, that it may be worn with the head full-dreffed, without difordering the hair or cap; but, when I travel, I am to have a fur cap over it, and no other headdrefs. As it is, I am fo difguifed you would hardly know me; for at your brother's defire, I went into the drefs of the country very foon after I got here, and found that he judged right, as it prevented much ftaring at me. At the wedding of our Governor, I obferved a lady, with a picture of the Emprefs Catherine hung to a blue ribbon on her left fide, ornamented with diamonds. After dancing a minuet with a plain-dreffed, but gentleman-like man, he

 faid,

said, in rather broken English, 'Madam, pray give me leave to introduce my wife to you, who would have been to wait on you before now, but she has been ill, and this is the first day of her going out.' He then brought this picture lady to me, who entertained me very politely, and told me who all the company were, and made me a visit the next day, and we are become as intimate as the distance between us will admit of, she living chiefly at Cronstadt, her husband being a sea-officer. She is daughter to the clergyman to whom the Empress Catherine was a servant when she married her first husband, the Swedish corporal. When she came to be empress, she sent for this clergyman and his family, and gave them a pension; and often went to see them, and took his daughter about herself, and always showed great love for her. The Emperor married her to this gentleman, and gave her a fortune; and, on her marriage, she had this picture pinned on her breast by the Empress. They are both good sort of people; and, I believe, a very happy couple. This surprising woman, who, from being the wife of a corporal, became that of a monarch, has so far raised my curiosity, as to make me very inquisitive as to any anecdotes about her; and by all the information I can get, I think, that if she had died four or five years before the great Peter, she would have made a great figure in history; for gallantry with a monarch, or, more properly speaking, the gallantries she had had before her marriage with him, would have been overlooked. But you say, why don't I tell you her history, as I have heard it here? Now, though this will spin out this letter to an unreasonable length, I tell you that she was servant in the family of a clergyman in Finland, as nursery-maid to this above-mentioned lady. She married a Swedish corporal, and was taken by a party of Russians, some say, on the wedding-day, others say, the next day. No one knows what was the fate of her husband. She was, by Gen. Baure, who commanded the party, given to prince Menzikoff, as were many more Swedish female prisoners. He was so fond of her as to be jealous, and kept her very close. Somebody told the emperor what a beautiful Swedish girl Menzikoff had, but that he suffered no one to see her. The Emperor said, he would go directly to Menzikoff's, and tell him he wanted one of his Swedish girls to get up his linen, and that his informer should make him such a sign when the person he mentioned appeared. They went that moment. The monarch made his proposed request; several were produced, without the sign being made. On which the Emperor said, "I am sure you have more, and I insist on seeing them all." She was then produced, and he took her home with him; and after some years cohabitation with her, at last made her his wife; and continued very fond of her till he discovered an intrigue between her and one of her attendants, who was taken up on some other pretence, and condemned to lose his head. This sentence was executed, and the Emperor carried her in a close coach to see him suffer. I leave you to form to yourself the situation into which that sight, and his upbraidings, must put her. However, he showed no outward resentment, on his childrens account: but it was generally supposed, that, as soon as they were married, she would have severely felt his resentment; and her very dissolute life, after his death, made every one say, that she merited any severity he could have shown her. Some years before this, a man was admitted to the presence of the Emperor; whom, after he had talked with him some time, he locked into his apartment, and went himself to that of the

the Empreſs: after ſome ſtay there, ſhe came out with him, and went to his in great commotion, where ſhe was heard to exclaim, "It is he!" and in the courſe of three hours, that they two and this unknown man were together, ſhe was heard to weep much, and often repeat, "You promiſe me, he ſhall not be hurt." He, without any paſſion, anſwered, "I do promiſe, on my honour; and pity him enough to do every thing for his caſe and advantage." This man was ſent away in the night, and was ſuppoſed to be the corporal [her huſband]. She was in ſtrong hyſterics all that night, and he very tender over her.——But you muſt be glad that my paper ſtands your friend."

Experiments and Obſervations made with ARGAND's *Patent Lamp.*

SIR,

As the attention of the world has been much excited by the powerful effects of Argand's Lamp; and as there are many who are deſirous of making uſe of it, provided its advantages were clearly aſcertained; I preſume the following deſcription of the inſtrument and its effects will not be unacceptable to the public. Your's, &c. N.

THE apparatus conſiſts of two principal parts, a fountain to contain the oil, and the lamp itſelf. Of the former it is unneceſſary to ſpeak: the lamp is conſtructed as follows. The external part conſiſts of an upright metallic tube one inch and ſix-tenths in diameter, and three inches and a half in length, open at both ends. Within and concentric to this is fixed another tube of about one inch in diameter, and nearly of equal length; the ſpace between theſe two tubes being left clear for the paſſage of the air. The interior tube is cloſed at the bottom, and contains another ſimilar tube a little more than half an inch in diameter. This third tube is ſoldered to the bottom of the ſecond. It is perforated throughout ſo as to admit a current of air to paſs through it, and the ſpace between this tube and that which environs it contains the oil. An ingenious apparatus, containing a piece of cotton cloth, whoſe longitudinal threads are much the thickeſt, is adapted nearly to fill the ſpace into which the oil flows. It is ſo contrived that the wick may be raiſed or depreſſed at pleaſure. When the wick is conſiderably raiſed, it is ſeen of a tubular form; and by the ſituation of the tubes already deſcribed is acceſſible to the air, both by means of the central perforation and the ſpace between the exterior and ſecond tube. When the wick is lighted, the flame is conſequently in the form of a hollow cylinder, and is exceedingly brilliant. It is rendered ſomewhat more bright, and perfectly ſteady, by adapting a glaſs chimney whoſe dimenſions are nearly the ſame with that of the exterior tube firſt deſcribed.

I hope this ſhort deſcription will be ſufficient to convey an adequate idea of the inſtrument, and ſhall therefore proceed to mention its effects. If the central hole be ſtopped, the flame changes from a cylindrical to a pyramidical form, becomes much leſs bright, and emits a conſiderable quantity of ſmoke. If the whole aperture be entirely or nearly ſtopped, the combuſtion becomes ſtill more imperfect. The acceſs of air to the external and internal ſurfaces of the flame is of ſo much importance, that a ſenſible difference is perceived when the hand or any other flat ſubſtance is held even at the diſtance of an inch from the lower aperture.

perture. There is a certain length of wick at which the effect of the lamp is the beſt. If the wick be too much depreſſed, the flame, though white and brilliant, is ſhort; if it be raiſed, the flame becomes longer, and conſequently the light more intenſe and vivid. A greater increaſe of the length increaſes the quantity of the light; but at the ſame time the upper part of the flame aſſumes a brown hue, and ſmoke is emitted.

The lamp was filled with oil and weighed; it was then lighted and ſuffered to burn ſo as to produce the greateſt quantity of light without ſmoke. After burning one hour and 52 minutes it was extinguiſhed, and found to have loſt 589 grains of its weight. Now a pint of the oil weighs 6520 grains, and coſts ſixpence three farthings in retail: the lamp therefore conſumes oil to the value of one penny in three hours. It remains to be ſhown in what rate per hour the ſame quantity of light might be obtained from the tallow candles commonly uſed in families.

The candle called a middling ſix, weighing upon an average the ſixth part of a pound avoirdupois, is $10\frac{3}{4}$ inches long, and 2 inches and $\frac{6}{10}$ in circumference. I have choſen to make my compariſon with this candle, as being, I imagine, moſt commonly uſed. It is to be underſtood that the lamp gave its maximum of light without ſmoke.

The beſt method of comparing two lights with each other, that I know of, is this: Place the greater light at a conſiderable diſtance from a white paper; the leſs light may be moved nearer or farther from the paper accordingly as the experiment requires. If now an angular body, as the moſt convenient figure, be held before the paper, it will project two ſhadows; theſe two ſhadows can coincide only in part, and their angular extremities will in all poſitions but one be at ſome diſtance from each other: the ſhadows being made to coincide in a certain part of their magnitude, they will be bordered with a lighter ſhadow, occaſioned by the excluſion of the light from each of the two luminous bodies reſpectively. Theſe lighter ſhadows in fact are ſpaces of the white paper illuminated by the different luminous bodies, and may with the greateſt eaſe be compared together, becauſe at a certain point they actually touch one another. If the ſpace illuminated by the leſs light appear brighteſt, that light is to be removed farther off; and, on the contrary, if it be the moſt obſcure, that light muſt be brought nearer the paper. A conſiderable degree of preciſion may be obtained by this method of judging of lights; and by this method the following compariſons were made.

The candle was ſuffered to burn till it wanted ſnuffing ſo much, that large lumps of coaly matter were formed on the upper part of the wick. The candle then at the diſtance of 24 inches gave a light equal to that of the lamp at the diſtance of 129 inches: from this experiment it is deduced, that the light of the lamp was equal to about 28 candles. The candle was then ſnuffed, and it became neceſſary to remove it to the diſtance of 67 inches, before its light was ſo much diminiſhed as to equal that of the lamp at the beforementioned diſtance of 129 inches. From this experiment it is deduced that the light of the lamp was equal to not quite four candles freſh ſnuffed. Another trial with the lamp at the diſtance of 131 inches and a half, and another candle of the ſame ſize at the diſtance of 55 inches, gave the lights equal. The candle was ſuffered to burn for ſome time, but did not ſeem to want ſnuffing, yet the light of the lamp then appeared to be the ſtronger. The candle when newly ſnuffed, the diſtances remaining the ſame, appeared rather to have the advantage

tage of the lamp. These numbers give $5\frac{2}{7}$ candles for the light of the lamp; and I imagine the lamp to be rather better than this upon an average, because candles are suffered to go a much longer time without snuffing, and therefore in general give less light than was exhibited in these trials. Another trial with the lamp raised so as to smoke a little, and the candle wanting snuffing, though the form of the wick had not as yet begun to change, gave the proportion of the lamp to the candle as about 8 to 1. W[e] may, therefore, I presume, take 6 middling sixes of tallow candles as an equivalent in light to the lamp. I tried the lamp against 4 candles lighted up together, placed on a distant table with the lamp. I retired till I could just discern the letters of a printed book by the light of the candles, the lamp being covered. I then directed my assistant to intercept the light of the candles and suffer the lamp to shine on the book; the lamp was the brightest. It seemed by trials of this kind to be rather better than five candles; but I was not at that time aware of the difference of the light of tallow candles, according as they have been more or less recently snuffed; and as this method does not appear capable of that degree of exactness and facility the other possesses, I did not pursue it.

From these trials, it is evident, that where light beyond a certain quantity is wanted, at a given place, these lamps must be highly advantageous: for the tallow candle being of six in a pound, and burning not quite seven hours, the lamp is equivalent to a pound of these candles lighted up for seven hours. Now, the expence of the lamp for seven hours is less than two pence halfpenny, and that of the candles eight pence; and if the proportion between wax and tallow candles be attended to, it will be seen, that the advanttges of this lamp for illuminating a theatre are very great. The wax-candles in Covent-Garden theatre are about 80 in number in the sconces, and by estimation may be worth about 2 l. Sterling. An equal quantity of light would be afforded by 14 of the patent lamps: for the candles used at the theatre do not give quite so much light as a tallow candle of six in a pound. The expence of the 14 lamps for five hours will not exceed 2 s. according to the foregoing deduction.

Mr Argand is certainly intitled to all the honour which his talents for philosophical combination have gained; and in the present instance, his claim as an inventor ought not to be disputed, though it should appear that the principle of his lamp was known, and even applied to use long ago. Every one is acquainted with the observation of Dr Franklin, concerning the increase of light produced by joining the flames of two candles; and double candles have actually been made for, and used by shoemakers, from time immemorial. The lamp of many wicks ranged in a right line, and used by watchmakers, gives a very great light for the same reason, namely, because the flame being of no considerable thickness, has access of air throughout, and the combustion is perfectly maintained: whereas, in a thick flame, the white heat or perfect ignition extends only to a certain distance from the exterior surface. This is exemplified in a striking manner in those large flames which issue from the chimnies of furnaces. These are luminous only to a certain distance inwards, and the interior part consists of vapour, hot indeed, but not of fire; so that if paper be held in the centre of the flame by means of an iron tube passed through the exterior burning part, the paper will not be set on fire. Mr Argand has proposed the converting a right-lined wick into a circular

one;

one: whether this be an advantage or no, except so far as concerns the convenience of having a longer range of conjoined flames within a less space, I was desirous of ascertaining. The result of my trials are these.

I took one of Mr Argand's wicks, which, when cut open longitudinally, will form a light at the extremity proposed to be lighted, measuring about two inches and six-tenths. This wick was placed in a brass trough; so that the upper edge of the wick was held perpendicular by the strait edge of the trough into which oil was put. The wick was then lighted; and it was easy to raise or lower it above the metallic edge at pleasure, because it adhered by means of the oil to the side of the brass vessel. I thus obtained a flame in a right line equal in length to the periphery of Argand's flame; and, as is the case in that lamp, I found it easy to lengthen or shorten the flame, to cause it to smoke or burn clear, as has been before-mentioned. The lamp and this right-lined flame were placed near each other, and at the same height, the glass chimney being taken off the former: the flames of both were adjusted so as to emit a small quantity of smoke, and their lights tried. The experiment being made by means of the shadows, as before-described, their lights proved exactly the same: but to the eye, looking at both lamps together, the intensity of Argand's flame appeared considerably the greatest; that is to say, it dazzled more, and left a stronger impression when the organ of sight was directed to some other object.

Before I made this experiment, I had some expectation that the long flame would be preferable to the circular one; because I supposed the interior surface of the circular flame could not throw out so much light as it would have done if it had been developed and exposed. I was even inclined to imagine, that the greater part of the light of Argand's lamp is furnished by the external surface of the flame. But the equality of the lights in the circular and the right-lined flames shows that this opinion was ill-founded; and that flame is in a very high degree transparent. I therefore directed my attention to the shadow of a lighted candle; and observed, that when the candle does not smoke, the shadow is nearly the same as if the candle were not lighted; that is to say, as if there was no flame. But if a piece of glass be held up in the same light, it will give a shadow sufficiently sensible; it therefore intercepts more of the light than flame does. This observation accounts for the superior brightness or dazzling of Argand's lamp. For the light which falls on a given portion of the retina of the eye from Argand's lamp is much more dense, because it consists not only of the light from the anterior, but likewise from the posterior part of the flame. My ideas on this subject were farther confirmed by an experiment I made with the two lamps: I placed the right-lined flame in such a direction that it should not, as it did before, shine on the paper by its broad side, but in the direction of its length: the comparison of its light with that of Argand's lamp still exhibited equality. But the long flame was then much more dazzling and bright than that of Argand. This circumstance, which, though highly curious, has not, as I know of, been before noticed, at least with that attention it deserves, may be applied to many valuable purposes; one in particular occurs to me that I cannot help mentioning. It should seem that any proportion of light may be had for microscopic purposes, by means of a long flame placed in the direction of the axis of the illuminating lens.

I tried the transparency of this long

long flame, placed at right angles, to the ray of Argand's lamp: it gave no shadow: but when its length was placed in the direction of the ray, it gave a shadow bordered by two broad, well defined bright lines, which I have not yet sufficiently examined to be able to give any conjecture respecting them; tho' they are undoubtedly owing to some optical deviation of the rays which pass in the vicinity, or through the substance of the flame.

These observations on the transparency of flame suggest an improvement, of which Argand's lamp is susceptible. Instead of one ring of flame there may be two, three, or more concentric rings, with air-passages between them. The inner rings will shine through the outer with more facility than the present flame does through the glass chimney; and it is probable that the rapidity of the current of air will be increased in a high proportion between these tubes of flame, so as to increase the vehemence and quantity of the ignition, and cause more light to be emitted than would answer to the mere increase of the line of wick.

P. S. Upon looking over this paper, it occurred to me, that the singular fact of the same candle that gave only one 28th part of the light of the lamp, becoming so bright on being snuffed, as to give more than one-fourth of the same light it was compared with (which is seven times as bright as before), might seem erroneous, or founded in mistake. I have, therefore, made several other experiments with snuffed and unsnuffed candles; and am well assured, that a candle, newly snuffed, gives in general more light than eight or even nine candles that have been suffered to burn undisturbed for an hour in a still place.

Reflections on the present Matters in dispute between Great Britain and Ireland; and on the Means of converting these Articles into mutual Benefits to both Kingdoms. *By* Dean Tucker.

THE sound sense, perspicuity, and perfect freedom from party that distinguish the writings of *Dean Tucker*, have justly excited a great degree of curiosity in the public to be made acquainted with his sentiments on every topic of national importance; and this curiosity seldom meets with disappointment. The present performance is introduced by a short preliminary advertisement, giving his reasons for coming forward on the present occasion. He concurs with the minister in thinking a general friendly plan of commercial intercourse should be adopted between Great Britain and Ireland; but believes "matters are not yet ripe enough for either country, to avail itself of those advantages which may be enjoyed on both sides, in the course of 10 or 15 years, were every thing to remain till then in *stata quo*, &c. were the consideration of the whole affair to be postponed to that period." "New light would then arise, new interest and connections be formed, and it is not improbable that the most violent opposers of a real union would then be the most zealous to promote it." What degree of satisfaction the propositions in the present state of mens minds are likely to give to the popular party in Ireland, may be conceived by what fell from Mr Flood in his speech the 12th of May, on the Irish Parliamentary reform. He said, "the commercial propositions, if they pass, are an evil; if they do not, are an imposition."

Ireland being now an independent kingdom, is as much intitled to trade to

to any foreign country as England herſelf.

Conſequently ſhe hath a right (or ſoon will have, when her own ill-judged act of ſubjecting herſelf to the reſtrictions of the Eaſt-India Company ſhall expire) to trade to all the countries beyond the Cape of Good Hope, and particularly to Indoſtan and to China.

She has alſo a full right to trade to Egypt, and to all parts of the Mediterranean, the Archipelago, and the Levant; not to mention the Ruſſian dominions bordering on the Black Sea.

Being now no longer bound to ſubmit to the Engliſh monopolies of ſugar, rum, &c. &c. ſhe is free to reſort to any market whatever, for the purchaſe of theſe commodities, inſtead of being confined to the Engliſh plantations, the deareſt in the known world.

She is totally at liberty to employ whatever ſhipping, Engliſh or foreign, ſhe may find the moſt conducive to her *mercantile* intereſt, for exportation or importation of any goods or manufactures, being happily releaſed from thoſe burdens and impoſitions on a free trade which are contained in that famous monopoly, called the *Act of Navigation*.

She is not now hampered by any Engliſh laws (and it is her own fault if ſhe will hamper herſelf) relative to the exportation or importation of grain; but is at full liberty to conſult the general intereſt of the whole kingdom, and not the partial intereſt either of the corn-grower or of the corn-dealer.

Laſtly, Ireland is not as yet infected with that ſtrange phrenzy which has infected the whole Engliſh nation for ſo many ages, viz. that all people, nations, and languages, ought to acknowledge England to be the ſole miſtreſs and ſovereign of the ſeas, and to pay homage and ſubmiſſion to her pavilion. Ireland is hitherto untainted with that ſpecies of madneſs, and conſequently has provoked no other maritime power to retaliate the affront upon her.

Now all theſe fortunate circumſtances, freedoms, and exemptions, might ſoon be made to operate to the general advantage of both kingdoms, were a judicious application to be made of ſelf-intereſt, the ſtrongeſt principle in human nature. But the benefits from hence ariſing, and every other benefit, muſt have been ſurrendered up on the part of Ireland, without obtaining any other compenſation than what was ſuppoſed to be contained in thoſe imaginary favours, ſpecified in the bill which lately paſſed the Iriſh Houſe of Commons; but which the Engliſh merchants and manufacturers, moſt happily for Ireland, have oppoſed with much violence and indignation. Theſe favours may be truly ſtyled *imaginary*, becauſe they are chiefly of ſuch a nature as make it impoſſible (in a commercial ſenſe) for the Iriſh nation to avail itſelf of them. In ſhort, they are no equivalent for what was to be ſurrendered up; and they grant nothing which can be reduced to practice for at leaſt a century to come. On the contrary,

The First Monopoly *to be opened for the Benefit of both Kingdoms, will ſoon be a free Trade to all the Countries beyond the Cape of Good Hope.*

The moſt fortunate circumſtance which could have happened for Ireland is, that ſhe is hitherto unencumbered with reſtrictions on her foreign trade, unfettered by joint-ſtock companies, or excluſive privileges; conſequently, as Ireland has, or ſoon will have, a free navigation from the Cape of Good Hope to the extremities of China, there is not a doubt to be made, but that many, perhaps moſt of thoſe Engliſh merchants and manufacturers who are the moſt zealous againſt the Iriſh bill, will be among the foremoſt to fit out Engliſh ſhips

ſhips and cargoes, and to clear and victual from ſome of the ports of Ireland, in order to trade under the ſanction of the Iriſh flag. In ſuch a ſituation, the face of things will be changed; no evils will be foreboded to fall on poor old England, even though the merchants of London, Briſtol, Liverpool, and Glaſgow, and the manufacturers of Birmingham, Mancheſter, Etruria, and Paiſley, ſhould ſend their goods to Arabia and Perſia, to the Eaſt-India and China markets, through this *new* channel: nor will there be any great lamentation, ſhould the returns be made in tea and china-ware, in raw ſilk, cotton-wool, camels hair, ivory, drugs, indico, ſalt-petre, and various other articles neceſſary for the manufactures of this kingdom. In fact, when theſe goods and raw materials ſhall be once landed in Ireland, the neceſſary conſequences will ſoon be felt in England: for our monopolizing Eaſt-India Company will be compelled either to lower their prices on the like articles to an equal ſtandard, or to become bankrupts. And no honeſt man, no lover of his country, or of mankind, can truly ſay, that either of theſe alternatives would be the worſt thing that could have happened either to Aſia or to Europe.

A Second Monopoly *to be opened for the Benefit of both Kingdoms is, a free Trade to Egypt, the Levant, &c.*

The ſame obſervations which were made relative to the reſtrictions of the Eaſt-India Company, may be made reſpecting our Engliſh Turkey Company; with this only difference, that whereas the Eaſt-India Company do not ſo much as pretend to grant a permiſſion to any ſhips to trade from any port but from the port of London, the Turkey Company, when the laſt ſtruggle was made for opening that trade, were obliged to grant a permiſſion of a free trade in words, but took care to clog it with ſuch difficulties as rendered it impracticable in *fact*. The Iriſh nation is not bound by any of theſe reſtrictive clauſes; and though not capable of profiting greatly herſelf on her own ſtock, yet ſhe can transfer an entire freedom to any Engliſh adventurer (and thereby obtain an intermediate profit to herſelf), who ſhall, with a proper aſſortment of Engliſh manufactures, clear out from ſome Iriſh port, and hoiſt the Iriſh flag. Here, therefore, let it be aſked, were this to prove a lucrative branch of commerce, *Who, or* which among our moſt violent *Anti-Iriſh Patriots*, would refuſe to ſubmit to the indignity of trading under borrowed colours?—— Nay, *who*, or which of our Engliſh merchants or manufacturers, made any ſcruple of doing the like, when the proſpect of gain was before their eyes? The writer of this paper long ago foretold, that the Engliſh and American traders would ſoon be reconciled to each other, notwithſtanding their violent and hoſtile declarations, when ſelf-intereſt became the load-ſtone of attraction. His opinion was then treated as a fooliſh paradox; the mercantile people, almoſt to a man, were pleaſed to ſcout at it: but the event has ſhown, that he was not ſuch a dreamer, or ſo wild in his conjectures, as they imagined him to be.

A Third Monopoly *to be opened for the Benefit of both Kingdoms, will be—— A free importation of Sugars, and of other Products of the warmer climates, from the* cheapeſt Market, *wherever it can be found: and by that means a foundation be laid for the gradual abolition of the preſent inhuman Slave Trade.*

It was obſerved in the foregoing article, that ſelf-intereſt eaſily reconciles all differences, and quickly extinguiſhes national antipathies. If it went no further, it would do no harm; nay, it would be an excellent ſuccedaneum to true and genuine benevolence

nevolence. But, alas! it often goes much too far; it often steels the heart against the clearest convictions of honour and conscience. In fact, the plainest dictate of morality, viz. DO AS YOU WOULD BE DONE BY, loses its influence, in many cases, when opposed by self-interest. There is not a man that breathes, who would approve of his being made a slave in the manner that the English carry on the slave-trade on the coast of Africa, and then transport these poor wretches, to sell them to the West-India planters. The murders committed in the course of this practice, reckoning from the beginning of it to the present hour, almost exceed the power of numbers to ascertain. Yet reason and humanity recoil in vain. For the same trade in human blood is still carried on, not only with impunity. but also with the consent, approbation, and even assistance of the British legislature. Nay, I will venture to foretel, that the same will for ever be carried on, till some other method can be devised for supplying Europe with sugars, and with other produce of the southern climates, at a *cheaper rate* than what we receive thro' the medium of slavery. *Cheapness* alone would work a surprising alteration in the thoughts and dispositions of mankind on such subjects. For self-interest (which in the present case is only another name for *buying cheap*) would do more towards exciting a strong aversion to the present monopoly of labour in our plantations, and to an abhorrence of the various cruelties attendant on slavery, than all the reasonings, moral arguments, or eloquence in the world. Therefore, as lowering the price of sugars, rum, cotton, &c. &c. is the grand object to be attended to, let us see whether the present state of Ireland can afford us any prospect towards attaining this important end; that is, whether the independence of that kingdom can, or cannot, be made subservient to the cause of humanity, by being used as a means for procuring sugars, &c. cheaper at an European market than otherwise they would have been.

One thing is so notorious that it cannot be denied, viz. That the English planters in general (doubtless there are exceptions) treat their slaves, or suffer them to be treated, with a greater degree of inhumanity than the planters of any other European nation. The reason of which excess of barbarity is too easily accounted for. As, 1st, The English planters in general have greater numbers of slaves on their plantations than others have; and the greater the number, the more severity must be used to keep them in awe, and to prevent them from combining together in favour of that passion for liberty which nature has implanted in every breast. 2dly, The English planters are more their own masters, their own law-givers in their assemblies, also the interpreters, the judges (as jurymen), and the executioners of their laws, than those of any other nation. *The very form of the English constitution, originally calculated for the preservation of liberty, tends, in this instance, to destroy it. Consequently the English planters can indulge themselves in a greater degree of passion and revenge, than would be permitted under the absolute governments of France, Spain, Portugal, or Denmark.* [See particularly the Code Noir of France. Moreover, the regulations of the Spanish government respecting negroe-slaves, are still more humane, laying a foundation for the sober and industrious among them, by allowing them the profits of two days labour in each week, to purchase their own liberty in the course of a few years. And it may be observed in general, that though absolute governments are tyrannical themselves, yet they are a great check on the tyranny of these intermediate subjects; being ready to protect the helpless from being oppressed

preſſed by any but themſelves. This is remarkably verified in the caſe of thoſe ſlaves who live under the Ruſſian, Pruſſian, and Auſtrian governments, compared with the hard fate of others who ſtill groan under the bondage of the nobles of Poland.] 3dly, Many of the Engliſh planters conſtantly reſide in England, and therefore conſign the care of their eſtates to thoſe tyrants at ſecond hand, called *bailiffs* or *overſeers*. Now this race of mortals hath a ſtronger intereſt than any others, to ſtifle all complaints againſt themſelves, and to keep their principals as much in the dark as poſſible, reſpecting the management and profits of their own eſtates. Add to this, 4thly, That the planters themſelves, knowing that they have a monopoly againſt the mother-country, becauſe we are not permitted to reſort to any other market, will keep up the price of ſugars, and of the other produce of their own lands, as high as poſſible: at the ſame time, that they do not think themſelves bound to purchaſe corn, proviſion, or any other merchandize at an Engliſh market, if they can buy the like articles cheaper in America, or any where elſe.

From all theſe circumſtances, no man can be at a loſs to know the true reaſon, how it comes to paſs, that the ſugars, and other produce of the Britiſh planters, are much dearer than thoſe of any other nation; notwithſtanding that our planters have many advantages in the purchaſe of their negroes, of their boilers, their mills, and of various utenſils, which others have not.

But the matter of *fact* puts this affair beyond the poſſibility of a doubt. *For while the common price of ſugars in the Britiſh iſlands, in times of peace, is generally found to be about* 25 s. *Sterling the Cwt.—that of the French is about* 16s.—*that of the Portugueſe about* 12s.—and that of the Eaſt Indies, as I have been credibly informed, no more than 2s. 6d;—being, N. B. raiſed or manufactured by *freemen only*.

Now, though the inhabitants of Great Britain are tied down at preſent to ſuch exorbitant prices, as the monopoliſing planter or his agent ſhall be pleaſed to extort from them; the inhabitants of Ireland are totally free, and may at any time reſort to the cheapeſt market: conſequently, by a judicious uſe and application of this freedom, they may become the means not only of emancipating the unhappy natives of Guinea from their preſent galling yoke (though, I own, by ſlow and almoſt imperceptible degrees), but may alſo convince mankind in general of the momentous truth, not yet thoroughly underſtood, That of all monopolies, ſlavery is the moſt prejudicial to the true intereſts of a trading nation.

Suppoſe, therefore, that ſhips were fitted out for Cork or Waterford, or from any other Iriſh port, with cargoes of Engliſh manufactures (becauſe the Engliſh are by far the beſt and cheapeſt that can be got, and may be procured on the *longeſt* credit), and properly ſorted for the French, Spaniſh, Portugueſe, Daniſh, or Dutch plantations; or indeed for any of the newly erected *free ports* in thoſe ſeas; in that caſe, is there a doubt to be made, but that the Engliſh merchants and manufacturers, with their large capitals, would be the principal adventurers? and can you imagine, that the difference in the reſpective prices between 25 s. 16 s. and 12 s. per Cwt. would not be a ſtrong temptation to them to make the trial? not to mention the additional circumſtance ariſing from the greater profits to be made on the ſale of the manufactures or outſets when ſent to theſe new markets.

A Fourth Monopoly *to be opened for the Benefit of both Kingdoms, will be a free Navigation, exempted from thoſe Clogs and Reſtrictions which are required by the famous Act of Navigation.* [See p 410.]

Upon

Upon the whole, it is evidently for the interest of both kingdoms, that the present bill should be deferred. Matters are not yet ripe enough for either country to avail itself of those advantages which may be enjoyed on both sides in the course of 10 or 15 years hence, were every thing till then to remain in *statu quo*, and were the consideration of the whole affair to be postponed to that distant period. New lights would then arise; new interests and connections would be formed; and it is not improbable, but that the most violent opposers of a *real union* would be then the most zealous to promote it. At present, an alliance, such as is proposed by the bill now depending, may be truly said to hang out false colours to both nations: for it buoys the Irish up with delusive hopes, which cannot be realized according to the system now proposed; and it fills the English with terrors and panics, which have no foundation but in the artifice of the *few*, and the credulity of the *many*. Happily for the world, it is the prerogative of Providence to bring good out of evil. This may be clearly seen in a thousand instances; and it will be our faults (I include the Irish as well as English), if we do not turn to our own profit and advantage the evils which is now before us.

A real union and incorporation with Ireland is certainly a most desirable thing; but, according to the present situation of affairs, and mens tempers and dispositions, this is an event more to be wished for than to be expected. Nevertheless, when many of those obstacles, which now appear so formidable, shall be smoothed by the lenient hand of time, and when a mutual intercourse between England and Ireland (according as above described) shall confer mutual benefits on each other; it will then be found, that the only thing remaining towards completing the commercial and political system, and towards giving strength and security, consistence and stability to the whole, will be to unite under one legislature, to form one parliament, and to become ONE PEOPLE.

The following singular Adventure is related as a Fact in La Nouvelle Bibliothéque de Société; *and is said to have happened in one of the Provinces of France. It is related in a Letter to a Friend.*

THE adventure which I am going to relate to you, my dear friend, is of so strange and dreadful a nature, that you are the only person to whom I must ever disclose the secret.

The nuptials of Mademoiselle de Vildac were celebrated yesterday; at which, as a neighbour, custom and good manners required my attendance. You are acquainted with M. de Vildac: he has a countenance which never pleased me; his eyes have often a wild and suspicious glare, a something which has always given me disagreeable sensations for which I could no way account. I could not help observing yesterday, that, in the midst of joy and revelry, he partook not of pleasure: far from being penetrated with the happiness of his new son and daughter, the delight of others seemed to him a secret torment.

The feast was held at his ancient castle; and, when the hour of rest arrived, I was conducted to a chamber immediately under the Old Tower at the north end. I had just fallen into my first sleep, when I was awakened and alarmed by a heavy kind of noise over-head. I listened, and heard very distinctly the footsteps of some one slowly descending, and drag-

dragging chains that clanked upon the ſtairs. The noiſe approached, and preſently my chamber-door was opened; the clanking of the chains redoubled, and he who bore them went towards the chimney. There were a few embers half extinguiſhed; theſe he ſcraped together, and ſaid, in a ſepulchral voice—'Alas! how long it is ſince I have ſeen a fire!' I own, my friend, I was terrified: I ſeized my ſword, looked between my curtains, and ſaw by the glimmer of the embers a withered old man half naked, with a bald head and a white beard. He put his trembling hands to the wood, which began to blaze; and ſoon afterwards turned towards the door by which he entered, fixed his eyes with horror upon the floor, as if he beheld ſomething moſt dreadful; and exclaimed with agony, 'God! God!'

My emotion cauſed my curtains to make a noiſe, and he turned affrighted. 'Who is there?' ſaid he. 'Is there any one in that bed?'—'Yes,' I replied: 'and who are you?' Contending paſſions would not for a while ſuffer him to ſpeak; at laſt he anſwered, 'I am the moſt miſerable of men. This, perhaps, is more than I ought to ſay; but it is ſo long, ſo many years, ſince I have ſeen or ſpoken to a human being, that I cannot reſiſt. Fear nothing; come towards the fire; liſten to my ſorrows, and for a moment ſoften my ſufferings!'

My fear gave place to pity; I ſat down by him. My condeſcenſion and my feelings moved him; he took my hand, bathed it with his tears, and ſaid—'Generous man! let me deſire you firſt to ſatisfy my curioſity. Tell me why you lodge in this chamber, where no man has lodged before for ſo many years; and what mean the rejoicings I have heard? what extraordinary thing has happened to-day in the caſtle?'

When I had informed him of the marriage of Vildac's daughter, he lifted up his hands to heaven—'Has Vildac a daughter! and is ſhe married! Almighty God grant ſhe may be happy! grant ſhe may never know guilt!' He pauſed for a moment—'Learn who I am,' ſaid he. 'You ſee, you ſpeak to—the father of Vildac!—the cruel Vildac! Yet what right have I to complain! Should I—ſhould I call man or tyger cruel!'—'What!' exclaimed I with aſtoniſhment, 'is Vildac your ſon? Vildac! the monſter! ſhut you from the ſight of man! load you with chains! And lives there ſuch a wretch?'

'Behold,' ſaid he, 'the power, the deteſtable power of riches. The hard and pityleſs heart of my unhappy ſon is impenetrable to every tender ſentiment: inſenſible to love and friendſhip, he is alſo deaf to the cries of nature; and, to enjoy my lands, has hung theſe eating irons on me.

'He went one day to viſit a neighbouring young nobleman, who had lately loſt his father; him he ſaw encircled by his vaſſals, and occupied in receiving their homage and their rents: the ſight made a ſhocking impreſſion upon the imagination of Vildac, which had long been haunted with a ſtrong deſire to enjoy his future patrimony. I obſerved at his return a degree of thoughtfulneſs and gloom about him that was unuſual. Five days afterwards I was ſeized during the night, carried off naked by three men maſked, and lodged in this tower. I know not by what means Vildac ſpread the report of my death; but I gueſſed, by the tolling of the bells and funeral dirges, more ſolemn than for inferior perſons, they were performed for my interment. The idea was horrid; and I intreated moſt earneſtly to be permitted to ſpeak, but for a moment, to my ſon; but in vain: thoſe who brought me my food, no doubt, ſuppoſed me a criminal condemned to periſh in priſon. It is now twenty years ſince I was firſt

firſt confined here. I perceived this morning that my door was not ſecured, and I waited till night to profit by the accident: yet I do not wiſh to eſcape; but the little liberty of a few yards more is much to a priſoner.'

'No!' cried I; 'you ſhall quit that diſhonourable habitation. Heaven has deſtined me to be your deliverer, defender, ſupport, and guide. Every body ſleeps; now is the time; let us be gone!'

'It muſt not be!' ſaid he, after a moment's ſilence. 'Solitude has changed my ideas and my principles. Happineſs is but opinion. Now that I am inured to ſuffer, why ſhould I fly from my fate? What is there for me to wiſh in this world? The die is thrown, and this tower muſt be my tomb!'

'Surely you dream,' anſwered I. 'Let us not loſe time; the night is advanced: we ſhall preſently have but a moment. Come!'

'I am affected,' replied he; 'but cannot profit by your kindneſs. Liberty has no charms for my ſmall remains of life. Shall I diſhonour my ſon; or which way has his daughter given me offence, to whom I was never known, by whom I was never ſeen? The ſweet innocent ſleeps happily in the arms of her huſband, and ſhall I overwhelm her with infamy? Yet might I but behold her! might I but lock her in theſe feeble arms, and bedew her boſom with my tears! 'Tis in vain! It cannot be! I never muſt look upon her!

'Adieu! Day begins to break, and we ſhall be ſurprized. I will return to my priſon.'

'No,' ſaid I, ſtopping him; 'I will not ſuffer that. Slavery has enfeebled your ſoul; I muſt inſpire you with courage. Let us be gone; we will afterwards examine whether it be proper to make the matter public. My houſe, my friends, my fortune, are at your ſervice. No one ſhall know who you are; and, ſince it is neceſſary, Vildac's crime ſhall be concealed. What do you fear?"

'Nothing! I am all gratitude! But, oh, no! it cannot be! Here I muſt remain!'

'Well, act as you pleaſe; but if you refuſe to fly with me, I will go immediately to the governor of the province, tell him who you are, and return armed with his authority and his power, to wreſt you from the barbarity of an inhuman child.'

'Beware what you do! abuſe not my confidence. Leave me to periſh You know me not. I am a monſter Day and the bleſſed ſun would ſicke at my ſight. Infamous I am, an covered with guilt—guilt moſt hor rible! Turn your eyes upon that wall behold theſe boards; ſprinkled wit blood, a father's blood!—murdere by his ſon; by me!—Ha! look behold! do you not ſee him! H ſtretches forth his bleeding arms! h begs for pity! the vital ſtream flow out! he falls! he groans! Oh, hor ror! madneſs! deſpair!'

The miſerable wretch fell convul ſed with terror to the floor; an when fear and paſſion in part ſubſid ed, he durſt not turn his guilty ey towards me, where I ſtood transfixe with horror. As ſoon as he had th power, he approached the door:— 'Farewel,' ſaid he; 'be innocent, you would be happy! The wretc who ſo lately moved your pity, now become deteſtable to you as we as to himſelf: he goes unlamented the dungeon, whence alive he nev ſhall return!'

I had neither the power to ſpea or move. The caſtle was become a place moſt abominable; and I departed in the morning. I muſt leave the neighbourhood; I cannot bear the ſight of Vildac, nor the remembrance of this night. How, my friend, is it poſſible that humanity can produce wickedneſs ſo intolerable and unnatural!

E.

Re-

Remarks on the Hiſtory of Ruſſia; by M. le CLERC.

WHEN we read the hiſtory of Ruſſia, we are every now and then ſtruck with the pernicious conſequences of the deſpotiſm with which that extenſive country is oppreſſed, equally fatal to ſubjects and ſovereigns; while it cruſhes the former, it keeps the latter in continual terror, by holding up to them the moſt frightful pictures of danger. It is not, therefore, to be expected that the Ruſſians can arrive at perfect civilization, ſo long as they remain under ſuch a ſervile yoke.

It is not enough that princes lay down magnificent and promiſing plans: they muſt likewiſe chooſe perſons that are capable of executing them; and ſuch perſons are ſeldom to be found among a nation of ſlaves. It is only ſince the extinction of feudal tyranny that France and England have ſeen commerce, agriculture, and other arts, begin to flouriſh. The earth herſelf ſeems willing to pour out her treaſures to the ſons of Freedom only; ſhe denies her gifts to the wretch, who himſelf, like the ox whom he conducts, obeys the rod of a maſter. But perhaps it would be as difficult to deſtroy the ſpirit of ſervitude in Ruſſia, as to eſtabliſh it in other ſtates. Liberty is a bleſſing which the Ruſſians have never yet been in a condition to reliſh, and which ſeems as if above their capacity. They all of them, more or leſs, reſemble a certain Ruſſian woman who complained of not being loved by her huſband, becauſe he was not continually beating her. Therefore time only can put this vaſt empire, in point of civilization, on a footing with the other countries of Europe. The happineſs of the people, together with the tranquillity of the throne, will gradually be eſtabliſhed; and the ſovereign power will no longer be expoſed to thoſe convulſions which hitherto have ſo often ſhaken it to the foundations. What better proof can there be of the inſtability of deſpotic power, than the revolutions which have taken place in Ruſſia ſince the reign of Peter the Great? We behold princes pulled in a moment from the throne, and baniſhed or caſt into priſon; while others, in the ſpace of a night, have taken poſſeſſion of their place, with hardly the ſmalleſt diſturbance or commotions. Theſe dethronements, which any where elſe would occaſion torrents of blood to be ſhed, are effected here in the moſt peaceable manner, and ſeem only ordinary or natural events. A court-intrigue is ſecretly ſet on foot; 200 or 300 ſoldiers appear before the imperial palace; and without even the trouble of forcing the guard, the gate is immediately opened to them; they enter the prince's apartment, carry him off, and the Moſcovites, who went to-bed under the reign of Ivan Antonitz, awaken ſubjects of Elizabeth, and think no more of the matter.

The bare relation of ſuch tranſactions affords a ſtriking proof of the dangers and fatal conſequences of arbitrary power. There is no occaſion to enter into long diſcuſſions: let us only take a ſlight view of the reigns from *Peter the Great*, till the æra of *Catharine II.*

Upon the death of Peter the Great, the ſceptre paſſed into the hands of Catharine I. or rather into thoſe of Mentchicof, her favourite. Thus the daughter of obſcure parents, who in her youth earned her livelihood by ſelling little pyes and tarts, gave laws to one of the greateſt empires in the world. In proportion as Catharine was beloved by the Ruſſions, Mentchicof was deteſted. His ambition increaſed with his fortune.

Not content with the honours and immense wealth which he possessed, he formed the project of putting his own family in possession of the empire, by betrothing his daughter to the grandson of Peter the Great, and his son to the princess Nathalia, sister to the presumptive heir of the crown.

She who had most reason to complain of the new reign, was the unfortunate Eudoxia, first spouse of Peter the Great, and mother of the unhappy Alexis. As if they had not done enough in robbing her of liberty, they used every means in their power to render her condition completely miserable. Confined to the gloomy horrors of a dungeon, with no other domestic but an infirm old woman, who was rather a burden upon her than of any advantage, she was reduced to the cruel necessity of betaking herself to the meanest employments; and for fear that religion might offer her any consolation, she was denied the assistance of a priest, whom she earnestly asked for, in order to administer to her the sacraments of the church. It was Count Tolstoe who was charged with executing these orders, and the Empress had every reason to be satisfied with his zeal in the execution of them.

Catharine I. did not long enjoy either her vengeance or the throne. She died 6th of May 1727, after a reign of two years and a few months; having named for her successor Peter Alexievitz, grandson of Peter the Great.

The first care of Mentchicof, after the Empress expired, was to make himself master of the person of the young Emperor, and to get himself declared Regent, in spite of the will of Catharine, who had established a counsel of regency.

It is the custom in Russia, that upon every change of government, the new sovereign immediately recals from exile those persons who have been proscribed under the preceding reign. Independently of this custom, nature and consanguinity pleaded strongly in the heart of Peter II. for the liberty of the Empress Eudoxia, his grandmother; as likewise for the recal of the friends and relations of this princess, who had been banished upon her account. Altho' this recal was by no means agreeable to Mentchicof, yet he durst not openly oppose it; he therefore pretended to change his principles; and all at once, this implacable enemy of Eudoxia, who had persecuted her with so much cruelty, wished now to appear the instrument of her deliverance, and to bring her back to that court from which, during the preceding reigns, it had been his continual endeavour to remove her. He dispatched to her two gentlemen, one of them her kinsman, to announce the elevation of her grandson to the throne, and to demand her consent to the marriage of the young Emperor with one of his daughters.

The youngest daughter of prince Mentchicof was betrothed to Peter II.: but it was remarked, that during the ceremony the young monarch paid no attention to his bride; which seems to prove that he was already apprized of the part which Mentchicof had taken in the repudiation and banishment of his grandmother, as well as in the disinheriting and condemnation of his father Alexis.

This contempt, so publicly shown by the young emperor, far from rendering Mentchicof more circumspect, only rendered him more bold and implacable toward those who were objects of his suspicion. This subaltern tyrant once more filled Siberia with illustrious exiles; and the insolence of his proceedings even forced the Duke and Duchess of Holstein to abandon Russia.

If any example whatever could serve for a warning to tyranny and ambition, it might, undoubtedly, be that

that of Mentchicof. This once so powerful man, that for years had made all Russia tremble, was arrested in an instant, stripped of his wealth, and banished to Beresof, upon the most remote frontiers of Siberia, where he ended his days.

Mentchicof was endowed with great qualities, but with faults still greater. Brave even to rashness, he was equally devoted to his master and to his country; he adopted invariably the maxims of Peter I. for the civilization of the Russians. Although he had never got any education, he was well acquainted with its full value. In general, his manners were blunt and rough; but he could appear gracious and polite to strangers; and he treated with complaisance all those who had the prudence not to show more understanding than himself, and who knew how to suit themselves to his humour. He never forgot a service done him; and he was the friend of all those who were devoted to his interests. These were his good qualities; but he had also many bad ones. His unbounded ambition could neither bear a superior nor an equal. He joined the insolence of an upstart to the haughty pretensions of a despot. An implacable enemy, he never forgave those whose interests jarred with his own.

Peter II. seemed to announce a peaceable and happy reign; but unfortunately he was seized with the small pox, and died 29th January 1730. This loss, although felt by all the Russians, was particularly so by the family of Dalgorouki. The young Emperor had never been able to live without prince Dalgorouki, who was much about his own age; and he had declared his marriage with the princess Catharine, his favourite's sister. Already the contract had been celebrated; and it was on the very evening of the marriage that he was attacked with the disease which brought him to the grave. We now proceed to observe with what reverse of fortune this illustrious family was attended after these marks of royal favour.

After the death of Peter II. the grandees of the empire assembled with the view of electing a new sovereign. Their choice fell upon the princess Anne, Duchess of Courland, daughter of Czar Ivan, eldest brother of Peter I. in preference to the eldest sister, the Duchess of Mecklenburgh, then living at Moscow. But resolved to profit by this circumstance, in order, if possible, to humble despotism, they added conditions which had a tendency to limit absolute power. They left to Anne nothing but the name of sovereign; the council had all the authority. Among the articles, one in particular was fatal to those who proposed it. The new Empress had for a favourite one named *Biren*, grandson of a groom. They had extorted a promise from her not to bring him into Russia. Instructed by *Count Yagoujinski*, a member of the council, the empress promised and signed every thing they desired. But scarcely had she ascended the throne, than she caused to be erased by a national council, the treaty which she had concluded, and rendered herself equally absolute with her predecessors. Her first act of authority was to call to her presence her favourite Biren, whom she appointed her chamberlain.

This revengeful favourite, cruel to excess, and unworthy in every respect of the favour which he enjoyed, thought only of the means to destroy those who had desired to have him left in Courland. Anne was weak, and susceptible of every impression; she abandoned the Dalgorouki family to the fury of Biren, who easily found means to get crimes laid to their charge. The princes Vasili and Ivan, who had the greatest share of credit, were broke upon the wheel, and the others had their heads struck off.

From that time Biren met with no obstacle to his ambition, nor kept any rein upon his vengeance. Absolute master of the Empress, he prevented her from marrying, in spite of the wishes of the whole empire. He had the same bold views as Mentchicof, without having his merit. It is said of him, that he spoke to men like a horse, and to horses like a man. Supported by the Russian troops, he forced the Courland nobility, who were always averse to admit him into their corps, to elect him in quality of their sovereign; and whoever dared to complain, was immediately sent into Siberia.

This favourite had a particular way of preventing the execution of such orders as were not agreeable to him: he took care that those who were possessed of these orders should be arrested by persons in masks; who, without ceremony, threw them into covered waggons, and conducted them into the most remote provinces of Russia. Among the number of instances of this kind that happened during the three years that Duke Ernest-John reigned, there is one deserves particular notice for its singularity.

A gentleman named *Sacken*, one evening at the gate of his country-house was seized by strangers, and put into a covered waggon. He was carried about for the space of two years from province to province, without seeing a living soul, not even his conductors, but with their faces covered. At the end of this period, they unyoked the horses in the night-time, and left him asleep in his waggon; where he remained at his ease till the morning. When he awakened, he heard several persons speaking the Courland language; and upon his opening the waggon, he, to his great surprise, found himself at the gate of his own house.

Biren was so detested, and at the same time so universally dreaded, that when people saw him in the streets, it was customary to cry, "Here is Biren, let us take care of ourselves."—In short, he trode in the very footsteps of Mentchicof; and he met with almost the same fate. The precautions he had taken to perpetuate his authority, and to possess the regency under the following reign, were equally fruitless. The prince Ivan Antonitz, while only in his cradle was recognized Emperor. It behoved to appear very strange to his father the prince of Brunswick, and to the princess Anne his mother, to see their son in the hands of a stranger; to see a man who had been bred a groom at Mittau, possessing a rank which nature and the laws seemed to grant to them alone. The insolence of this upstart could not but irritate them still more. Biren had dared to say publicly, that if the princess Anne attempted to raise any mutiny, he would send back both her and her prince to Germany, and would call in the Duke of Holstein, and place him on the throne. And he undoubtedly would have executed this project if he had got time for it; for in order to place his own posterity upon the throne, he had formed the design of marrying his eldest son to the princess Elizabeth, and his daughter to the Duke of Holstein.

It was in the midst of these flattering hopes that the moment of his disgrace arrived. General Munich had been the instrument of his elevation to the regency; he was now the instrument of his fall. The 28th of November 1740, a band of soldiers entered the apartment of Biren, while he was in bed with his wife. In spite of the efforts he made to escape from their hands, they laid hold of him, thrust a handkerchief into his mouth, tied his hands behind his back with a scarf, and carried him before the *corps de garde*. The commissaries appointed to proceed on his trial, condemned him to death:

the princess Anne, however, having become regent, changed the punishment, and contented herself with banishing him to Siberia; a punishment far too mild for a monster who had exercised such horrible cruelties.

This new situation of affairs was not of long duration. Within a few months the princess Elizabeth, by the assistance of a Frenchman named Lestocke, seized upon the throne; the prince and princess of Brunswick were transported, first to Oranienbourg, and then to Kolmegori in an island of the Dwina. The young Emperor was taken from his parents, and confined to Schlusselbourgh; where he was murdered after a confinement of 22 years, and without ever having been charged with a crime.

Besides the title of daughter of Peter the Great, Elizabeth possessed qualities which made her adored by her subjects. The following character of her is drawn by Mareschal Munich, who had some cause to complain of her behaviour to him.

'*Elizabeth* was born with those eminent qualities which rendered her reign so dear to the nation. I had the honour to see her when she was 12 years of age; she was then well made, and very handsome. Full of health and vivacity, she walked with so brisk a pace, that the women, her attendants, had difficulty to keep up with her: she was bold on horseback, and did not even fear to rush into any water. Her genius was active, lively, and penetrating. Besides the Russian language, which she spoke in perfection, she was mistress of the French, German, and Swedish. She wrote well, and in fine characters; was fond of magnificence; and in particular had a passion for building palaces and churches. She diligently cultivated and encouraged the art military: hence her armies gloriously combated and conquered the Prussian troops then so much boasted of; and hence the court of Russia has become one of the most brilliant in Europe, by introducing the French language, taste, politeness, and manners. This princess was most gracious and engaging, and far removed from every species of cruelty; but such an excess of goodness in sovereigns becomes often a weakness, when they leave themselves to the conduct of others.

'Descended from a voluptuous race, Elizabeth was voluptuous to excess: *Je ne suis contente qu'autant que je suis amoureuse*, she used to say to her confidents. With this natural propensity to love, she was inconstant in her amours, and continually changing favourites. This weakness is generally accompanied with a considerable degree of complaisance; and accordingly her favourites for the time were freely permitted to act as suited their own personal interests.'

The man the most favoured under this reign, and successor to Mentchicof and Biren, was Count *Bestuchef*. His ascendant over the mind of Elizabeth rendered this princess ungrateful to France, to whom she owed so much; and also to Lestock, who paved her way to the throne. She formed connections with the courts of Vienna and London, whose ambassadors formerly had tried to ruin her by giving information of her projects to the princess Anne; and this empress, mild in character, and surnamed the *Clement*, had the weakness to banish the man who had so essentially served her, and allowed him to be stripped of all his effects.

But the author of his disgrace, Bestuchef, was soon degraded in his turn. The eyes of the Empress were opened to the conduct of her unworthy favourite, who had continually deceived her from the time he was placed at the head of the ministry. He was banished to Goretovo, a small town at the distance of 120 versts from

from Moscow, where with the greatest difficulty he was permitted to build for himself a place of habitation.

Elizabeth in the mean time was employed in regulating the order of succession to the throne of Russia. She made choice of the young prince Holstein Gottorp, son of her eldest sister, declared him Grand Duke, and made him espouse the princess Sophia Augusta of Anhalt-Zerbst, who took the name of *Catharine Alexievna*. It was ordered that she should succeed to the crown if the Empress and the Grand Duke died without heirs. Peter III. only reigned six months; and it is his consort, Catharine II. who now possesses the throne of Russia.

Roman Altar.

SIR,

THE Roman altar, of which the etching annexed is a tolerable exact representation, was lately found in digging among the ruins within the castle of Tynemouth near Newcastle. The inscription shows it to be an altar erected to Jupiter by Ælius Rufus, the commanders of the fourth cohort; but a great part being defaced, it is impossible to say upon what occasion. The figures prove it to have been erected for sacrificing and probably to commemorate some great event.

N° 1. is the front; n° 2. the right side; and, n° 3. the left.—There is nothing on the fourth side, as it possibly has stood against the wall in some temple or other edifice in this spot.

Edin. June 6. 1785. A. C.

. . . .

IN your magazine for March, p. 240, it is said, 'At the union of the kingdoms (Scotland and England) all the Scottish coin was called in, and recoined at Edinburgh, with the mark E under the bust, to distinguish it.'

If this be the fact, I, as well as many of my acquaintances, have been greatly misinformed. We were taught to believe, that the silver coin, bearing the bust of the last of the Stuart race, and distinguished by the alphabetic letter alluded to, was sent us by our good neighbours the English, at the time of the union, in name of EQUIVALENT MONEY; great part of which was divided among that infamous majority of the Scottish parliament, who completed a business attended with so many blessed consequences to this country.

Your publishing this may perhaps be a means of having more light thrown upon the subject, either by the writer of the article referred to, or by some of your correspondents.

Letter from Paris, dated May 6th.

THE celebrated authors of the Spectators thought it not beneath their dignity to take notice of some absurdities and other more proper devices which appeared in those days upon the signs of several tradesmens shops in London; and their criticisms on these subjects seemed both just and were at the same time entertaining*. If I might be permitted to tread in the same path, without assuming any other merit than that of filling up a corner of your Magazine, I would present to you some observations of the kind, which I made when upon my travels. I was stopped

* This brings to my mind the anxious care of Abel Drugger in the Alchemist.

ſtopped one day in my carriage in a narrow ſtreet of Paris by ſome temporary obſtructions; and looking out, I was puzzled by a Latin inſcription which appeared over a large *porte cochere*; the words were EX MORTE VITA; and notwithſtanding I had been detained for the above reaſons more than ten minutes, I could not explain this riddle. At laſt a man opened the gate, in the habit of a butcher, when I could not help ſmiling at the conceit; and upon inquiry I found out that it was a conſiderable ſlaughter-houſe. At another time I obſerved over a watch-houſe for the uſe of the *Guet*, "Nocte Die-que Fideles;" alluding to their being upon duty both by day and night. A *Perruquier*, to eſtabliſh the utility of his bag-wigs, cauſed the hiſtory of Abſalom to be painted over his door *. Some of the coffee-houſes are diſtiſtinguiſhed by very pompous names; ſuch as, *Le Caffé des Beaux Arts*, *Caffé des Sciences*, *Caffé du vrai Merite*, &c. Theſe titles excited my curioſity, but I was greatly diſappointed, on finding the company which frequented them was made up of *Mouſquetaires*, *Abbés*, and *petits Avocâts*. I really thought there was ſome wit in the milliner of La Rue St Honorè, who placed over her door, *Aux Traits galants*; and another in that neighbourhood, who choſe to live *au Jardin de L'amour*. *La belle Coeffeuſe* did not pleaſe me ſo well, as it ſounded too much of her own vanity; but I dare ſay you will approve of the lady in the *Fauxbourg de Saint Germain* who took for her device, *A la Roſe ſans epine*. It is a known fact, that the lower claſs of people in France are very illiterate: to remedy this evil in ſome meaſure, there are at Paris, ſtationed in the ſtreets, public ſcribes (if I may be allowed the expreſſion), or, as I read it over one of their little bureaux, *Ecrivains publiques pro bono publico*. Theſe ſtalls are upon wheels, conſequently may be moved from place to place, and are large enough to contain two or three perſons. Hither the unlettered laqueys, friſeurs, porters, water-carriers, &c apply for letters, either on buſineſs or gallantry; and Monſieur with an air of ſuperior conſequence, tranſacts their *petites affaires* for the ſmall tribute of five or ſix ſols. But as in all trades competitors will ariſe, I obſerved ſome time after, that Monſieur *de la Plume* had a rival; and how far his reflection on the reſt of the feathered profeſſion was juſt, I ſhall not undertake to determine; but he ſarcaſtically wrote over his *maiſonnette*, 'Scribere ſciunt Multi, ſed componere Pauci.' If theſe remarks, which are not fictitious, are thought worthy of a place in your Magazine, I may, perhaps, at a future time, recollect ſome more, which at preſent have eſcaped my memory.

Yours,

OBSERVATOR.

In the Manner of a Critical Review.

The laſt dying Speech and Confeſſion, Birth, Parentage, and Education, Life, Character, and Behaviour, of the noted Bob Booty, alias *Bloody Bob, who was executed this morning at Tyburn. To which is added a Copy of a Letter, which he ſent to his Wife the night before his Execution.—Single ſheet folio, price ½d. Printed for, and ſold by the Street Bookſellers in London and Weſtminſter.*

THIS elegant little work is adorned with a beautiful wooden fron-

* Similar to this is a barber's inſcription at a town in Northamptonſhire, "Abſalom, hadſt thou worn a perriwig, thou hadſt not been hanged."

frontiſpiece, repreſenting the fatal cataſtrophe, in *Chiaro Obſcuro*. The drapery in particular of the Ordinary of *Newgate*'s gown is admirable.

The author very finely obſerves in his moral introduction to this work, that "the pitcher, that goes often to the well, will be broke at laſt;" and concludes with this noble reflection, "He who is born to be hanged, will never be drowned." This, however, is not always true: for the hogs that were *drowned* in the inundation at *Chelmsford*, ſome years ago, were afterwards *hung up*, and, we are told, made excellent bacon.

This little hiſtory may be compared to a regular drama; in which is obſerved a *beginning*, a *middle*, and an *end*. Our hero, it ſeems, was born of parents,—that is the *beginning;* he was ſeduced by lewd women,—that is the *middle;* he was hanged,—that is the *end*.

His dying ſpeech is a maſter-piece of oratory; and we cannot help ſuſpecting, that ſome parts of it muſt have been dictated by the *Ordinary* himſelf,—particularly the concluſion, in which the good people are ſo pathetically adviſed to take warning by his untimely end, and *not to go on Sundays to a church with a chimney in it*.

The letter to his wife is ſo very *affecting*, that we ſhall take the liberty of tranſcribing the whole of it for the *entertainment* of our readers.

My deareſt Wife,

As I am going to lanch into eternity, I hopes you will forgive your unhappy, who has been a moſt undutiful huſband to you and your pore children.——Pray God bleſs us all, and our children after us, as long as we live——My deareſt wife, dont be ſeduced by bad women, which ſartinly brings a man to deſtruction at laſt.——The Lord have mercy upon my pore ſowle—my fiends, I hope, will take my body. So no more at preſant from

Your loving huſband tell death,

ROBERT BOOTY.

Condemned Ole, Sept. 19.

Letter from M. de LUC *to Madame* ——, *on the Natural Benevolence of Mankind.*

I BEGIN to experience the effects of the ſimplicity of the inhabitants, in the decency of their manners, and the little eagerneſs they diſplay for money. I dined very well at Poppol, myſelf and my poſtilion, and I payed only five Dutch *ſous* and a half, which are worth about twelve French *ſous*, or *ſixpence* Engliſh. Theſe are but trifles, it is true, but they are characteriſtic trifles.

I experience beſides a thouſand little attentions, which are very agreeable, without ever being troubleſome; and I even perceive that I am indebted for ſome of them to my being ignorant of the language of the country. It is a conſiderable time ſince I made this obſervation, which ſerves to give us a very favourable impreſſion of human nature. The man who makes himſelf underſtood with difficulty, inſtead of diſguſting, intereſts us. He is not viewed by thoſe whom he addreſſes in that ordinary way which habit and private intereſt, ſo adverſe to ſentiment, inſpire; he is, ſo to ſpeak, *man in the abſtract;* and human nature indulges, with regard to him, its own natural propenſity.

I have always been inclined to rely upon this natural diſpoſition of mankind; and I have never had cauſe to repent it. I do not ſpeak here of cities, where too complicated an image is preſented; though even there it can ſtill be traced; I ſpeak of the country

country people only, and those who are commonly styled savages or rude men. As I have often made excursions out of the common roads, I have found myself frequently in situations very different in appearance, and have yet never experienced any difference with regard to this natural propensity. Under the influence of this general observation, I have frequently left the cities of Italy, to bury myself in the heart of those countries that are reported to be infamous for assassinations, and for the cruelty and treachery of their inhabitants in general. I paid no regard to the friendly remonstrances of those who were struck with facts, but who had never investigated their causes. I had, perhaps, dived no deeper into these causes myself, had I not relied upon that general rule established by experience; *He who gives others no cause to fear him, is always the most secure.* I do not speak here of *great roads*, or *great cities*; a distinction which must not be lost sight of.

The jargons, or provincial dialects of Italy, are so various, especially among the country people, that although one knows the grammatical language, yet he is almost every where a stranger, and with difficulty can make himself understood. Far from thinking this an inconvenience, I esteemed it a great advantage; I was but a *man*; they had no prepossession against me. Above all, I had no fear: and if it be true, that fear often creates danger, it is particularly true in this case. I would not have recoiled though I had even met with cannibals; for they kill and eat only their enemies, and they would discover in a moment that I was none.

Distrust generates distrust; and when it grafts itself upon a violent temper, its effects have no bounds. Excite it not; and these very tempers, violent as they are, will be warm only in your service. The man who assumes the aspect of distrust, and who keeps himself upon his guard, is almost always considered as a man who is himself to be dreaded; and, with this disposition, the more courage he possesses, the greater his danger; the terror of a coward excites sometimes no sentiment but pity.

I insist somewhat on this subject, because I have seen, in the course of my life, very disagreeable consequences resulting from this want of confidence; while I have, on the other hand, experienced a thousand advantages from an opposite conduct. I insist upon it also, because, in reading the accounts of cruelties exercised upon Europeans by savage nations, facts which are commonly cited to prove the innate malice of mankind; I have for the most part, in these very relations, discovered the causes of those dangers to which men have exposed themselves, and of all the subsequent misfortunes which they have suffered. I insist upon it, in a word, because I think I can rescue humanity from many of those accusations with which it is loaded.

It cannot be denied, that many savage nations are guilty of barbarities, the very relation of which makes us shudder; and it is equally true, that in some parts of Italy there are people who, if not cannibals, are at least too like savages. It is among these very people that I have studied chiefly the causes of the untoward appearances of the nature of man. I have frequently been among them, and without any companion; and I have constantly observed, that these barbarous actions arose either from distrust or revenge. Not one of these people was ever the aggressor willingly and knowingly: when an attack was in reality made, it was either when they were afraid of being themselves assaulted, or when they were fired by a sentiment of revenge: it was, in a word, an error accompanied with this principle, *It is better* to

to get the start of one, than to allow one to be beforehand with us. I except a second time the *highways* and *great cities;* the causes there are too complicated.

Those sentiments of mutual hatred which result from a series of hostilities carried on from generation to generation, are the fresh seeds of fresh discords, and alter to such a degree the national character, that even the ties of blood are no longer respected, and the whole passions are thrown loose. Notwithstanding this, however, the original sentiments of humanity are not extinguished. "We must arm ourselves," (said the person who had the goodness to conduct me into these countries, as interesting for the natural historian as for the study of mankind), "these men are devils incarnate; among them brethren are slaughtered by brethren, and, if our search after fossils should lead us to their habitations, we can hope to be respected only with pistols in our hands." Upon this he proceeded to recount many dangers which he had experienced:—"Let us arm ourselves, then," said I, shaking my head, "but I think, that, by indemnifying those to whom we do any damage, we may render ourselves sufficiently secure."—"Doubtless, if a reasonable recompence would satisfy them; but for what is worth only a penny they will ask a crown." "Perhaps because they are offended. But let us be armed since you will have it so."

We made a considerable tour together in Piedmont; and we did indeed experience many obstacles and inconveniences. We suffered even from hunger, ourselves as well as our horses: but what was the reason? because we had to procure subsistence with arms in our hands. This was the *north wind getting into the traveller's cloak.* My companion, a good and amiable man, who had even gained warm friends in the country, had come there at first prejudiced against the national character. He had wished to make himself feared, because he was a man of courage: but these people did not fear him; they were men of courage as well as he. The consequence was, he involved himself in many violent quarrels; and the more he proceeded in this way, the more cause had he really to be apprehensive of danger. I endeavoured to convince him of this; but his heart was wounded, and he wished for nothing but what he carried by the sword.

I acquired in this first tour a knowledge of the country, and a smattering of the idiom of the language; but chiefly I learned upon what account we had experienced so many inconveniences; and I resolved, that when I made my next visit, I should be alone. Since that time I have been there frequently, and in many other similar countries. My first precaution was always to use none,——no arms, no distrust. At the same time I never allowed myself to forget that man is haughty, and wishes to be respected in every situation; and that he who has a favour to ask, ought by no means to give offence. As soon as I had got into the country, I took one of the natives along with me; I only required of him that he should conduct me wherever I wished to go; and I concerned myself about nothing else. I chatted with my guide upon the road; I appeared eager to accustom myself to his language, and he soon became as eager to instruct me. I told him what I wanted; and thus afforded him the pleasure of feeling that he assisted me. If it was necessary to enter a vineyard or an inclosure, I sent him to ask permission. He often assured me there was no necessity for this, and that he would answer for me if the proprietor should challenge

us.

us. I alſo took care to learn all the forms of ſalutation in uſe in the country; and I always added geſture to it, becauſe I wiſh to ſee this part of ſpeech preſerved among all men. It has coſt me much to habituate myſelf to the indifference of the inhabitants of great cities, and to paſs a man as I would paſs a ſtone.

By theſe ſimple means, I found nothing but affection, ſupport, aſſiſtance, and attention, every where in theſe countries ſo much railed againſt. I owe them this acknowledgment, and I pay it willingly, not from a principle of juſtice merely, but from a ſentiment of real pleaſure, which I experience whenever I recal them to my memory. *Italy*, it has been ſaid, *is a paradiſe inhabited by devils*. But whoever ſpeaks thus, knows nothing of its inhabitants. It is true, that no ſooner had I gained the confidence of my guides, than I found them almoſt always ſecretly armed with ſtilettos and piſtols, in ſpite of the laws of the country. But it was not againſt me, nor was it for me that they had any fear; but they were afraid leſt they ſhould meet their enemies, or perhaps they wiſhed not to loſe an opportunity of revenge. I intreated them never to think of theſe things while they were with me, leſt they ſhould throw my ſhells and foſſils into diſorder; they laughed at the reaſon, and forgot the ſtiletto.

Once in particular (it was in the biſhopric of *Tortona*) I had for my guide, during ſeveral days, a man who diſcovered himſelf to me to be a fugitive, for having killed another in his own defence. It was at *Novi*, where he was ſecure, that I hired him. He wiſhed, contrary to my inclination, to arm himſelf with a fuſil, under the pretence that there were robbers, and that it would be neceſſary ſometimes to travel by night to avoid the heats of the day. In this manner he made me paſs the frontier, keeping always upon the hills. He confeſſed his motive afterwards very ingenuouſly; ſhowing me at the ſame time in a girdle he wore under his veſt five tin cartridges, with a ball ſoldered to the end of each; with theſe he aſſured me he could have charged and diſcharged his piece in leſs than two minutes, and without one ſhot miſſing. He wiſhed to avoid ſuch a neceſſity if poſſible, but he did not ſhrink from it. He made the tour of the country with me in this manner; we viſited his family, where I was received with all the hoſpitality imaginable, and we returned together to *Novi*.

In all theſe excurſions, far from being obliged to pillage for my ſubſiſtence, I had frequently conteſts of a very different ſort to be allowed to pay for it; and more than once it happened, that I was obliged to acknowledge the obligations I had received by little preſents which I thought might pleaſe them.

There is doubtleſs much evil in this country; but it does not all ariſe from the fault of the people. They follow blindly an unhappy propenſity, from which it is neceſſary to endeavour to draw them by gentle means. Unhappily this is not attempted: for they do nothing but puniſh; and in order to puniſh them the more readily, they render them ſtill more corrupt, by pardoning informers. What an object is here preſented for humane and enlightened miniſters! How many ſervices done to a country, tho' perhaps more brilliant, are far leſs meritorious than reſcuing theſe people from their unfortunate ſituation.

I return to my text: *Man is naturally good*. And he who relies fully upon this, is right twenty times to one againſt him who diſtruſts it; provided he is juſt and tolerant. It is not in what is commonly called *cruelty*,

ty, that we discover the greateſt depravation of man; it is in deceit of every kind. I would chooſe rather to herd with *cannibals*, than mingle with ſome that are named *honeſt men*. Here I am neither with the one nor the other; I am with *good country people*; and I feel myſelf ſo much at my eaſe, without either hearing them, or being heard by them, that my mind, full of contentment, wiſhes only to expreſs it.

Deſcription of the Canals in Holland; by M. de Luc.

HOLLAND is ſo low a country, that were it not ſurrounded with dikes, the ſea and the rivers would cover its whole ſurface. But it is ſecured on the greateſt part of the ſea-coaſt by natural dikes, or *downs*; where theſe are wanting, and all along the rivers, the land is defended by artificial dikes; and thus exiſts below the level of the rivers and the ſea.

But here a queſtion naturally ariſes, *What becomes of the rain-water, in a country which can never be drained?* This is the grand hydraulic problem which has been ſolved in Holland. Were the wind-mills to ceaſe from pumping, were the people leſs diilgent in watching the dikes and ſluices, this flouriſhing country would become a vaſt moraſs. But at the ſame time that they thus ſecure their country by art, theſe waters that threaten its deſtruction, have been converted to a thouſand uſeful purpoſes; it is to them that Holland owes its fertility, and a facility almoſt incredible for every kind of inland carriage.

The name of *Meuſe* is given only to that river which is formed by one of the arms of the Meuſe properly ſo called, and a branch of the Rhine. It runs along the weſt part of Holland; and, at the ſame time that it occaſions its greateſt danger, lays open an extenſive commerce in the heart of the country. The art with which this dangerous river is managed, is one of the moſt intereſting things ever executed by any nation. Its banks are all fortified with dikes made of clay, drawn from the bed of the river, upon the iſlands which it there forms. Theſe dikes are at their baſe from 20 to about 50 feet in breadth, according to their poſition, and the force with which the river preſſes againſt them: their height is from 20 to 24 feet, reckoning from the level of the ground incloſed by them. They are placed, wherever it is poſſible, at ſome diſtance from the river, in order to give it an opportunity of widening before it ſtrike againſt them. Unluckily they have been built without any general plan, ſo that the courſe of the river is very crooked; and, by this means, while it daſhes violently againſt them in ſome places, it runs ſlowly in others where there are any conſiderable bendings of its courſe; and there it depoſites mud ſo as to contract its channel. This is an evil almoſt without remedy; but of which the conſequences hitherto have only been an increaſe of labour.

But in raiſing dikes againſt the external waters, it was neceſſary to get rid of the rain water. This too has been effected by means of wind-mills, and large canals which terminate at the dikes. Theſe canals, which they call *boeſems*, are the principal veins of the country. They are formed by a double bank, more or leſs broad, which they name *thade*, (little dike); and their level is every where raiſed at leaſt four feet above the higheſt ground in the country. They reach the river at the places where

where there are ports, which are in this reſpect like ſtrong holds upon the frontier; for the ſalvation of the country depends upon them. Theſe keys of the continent of Holland, on the ſide of the Meuſe, are chiefly at *Rotterdam*, *Delſshaven*, *Schiedam*, and *Maaſlandſluys*. In theſe cities the grand dike is open; but with every precaution neceſſary to render them maſters of this opening. It is ſtrongly walled; and gates of vaſt ſolidity keep the paſſage as they pleaſe, either open or ſhut.

Theſe paſſages are called *ſluys* (ſluices); and hence are derived all the names with this termination; as *Helvoetſluys*, and *Maaſlandſluys*. The particular dike which ſeparates two waters, as an interior arm of a river from the river itſelf, is called *Dam*; and this is the origin of thoſe names which end in *dam*; as *Amſterdam* and *Rotterdam*, where the *Amſtel* and *Rotter* are ſeparated from the exterior water. There are alſo ſluices in theſe *dams*.

The double gates of the ſluices ſerve to admit ſmall veſſels or let them out. Do they come from the Meuſe, which is often higher than the higheſt canals, the outer ſluice is opened; they are brought in between the two gates, and are there ſhut up; a wicket is then opened in the inner door, through which the water of the little baſon ſinks to the level of the canal: the gate is then opened, and the bark enters. Do they come from the inland country, they are incloſed in the ſame manner between the two gates; a wicket is opened on the ſide of the Meuſe, the water ruſhes in, the veſſel riſes; and when it is on a level with the river, the gate is opened for it, and it ſails out.

Each of theſe ſluices is thus the outlet of one of the *boeſems* or canals. The laſt canal, which terminates at this outlet, is the re-union of a number of others which have paſſed thro' a large diſtrict. Each ſluice then belongs to a ſeparate ſyſtem of canals, which it diſcharges; and yet as all theſe diſtinct combinations muſt terminate in one another, in order to facilitate the inland navigation, communications are eſtabliſhed by means of the locks; which ſerve to keep all the different ſyſtems of canals in their proper level, by preſerving the means of making veſſels paſs from one to another. It is always in a little baſon, and betwixt two gates, that the veſſel is raiſed or depreſſed, according as it ſhould either riſe or fall, in order to enter a new canal.

Theſe canals are thus veins raiſed upon the ſoil of Holland, like the veins upon the under part of leaves; and yet it is by them that the rain-water muſt be drained off the whole ſurface of the country. To effect this, it is cut by ditches (*ſlooten*), which enter likewiſe into one another, but only by diſtricts, called *polders*. Theſe diſtricts are ſurrounded with little dikes, which divide them from each other; and each of them diſcharges its waters by itſelf and at its own expence. The little ditches of each of theſe diſtricts terminate in one or more ditches; and theſe again in a canal, where the water is raiſed by one or more windmills, according to the extent of the *polder*. Although the land-holders in each of the diſtricts are obliged to drain them for their own private advantage, yet the State watches over their operations. Without this precaution, that indolence, which often renders men negligent in their own affairs, might be very detrimental to the public. They are therefore obliged to drain the water from the *polders*, whenever there is more than is neceſſary for the uſe of the country; that is, more than is neceſſary for ſeparating different eſtates, adorning the meadows, and tranſporting the little boats, which ſerve all the purpoſes of car-

carriage that agriculture and the neceſſity of the inhabitants demand.

By thus getting rid of the interior waters, the eaſieſt navigation is every where procured. There are as many canals in this country as there are roads in others. The largeſt canals form the highways; the leſſer form private roads for the benefit of the country.

By means of the *ſluices* which are at the mouth of theſe canals towards the river, the interior water is kept at ſuch an elevation, that the river, which is ſubject to the movements of the tide, is lower than the canals at low water. This is the moment ſeized upon for opening the *ſluices*, in order to diſcharge the water of the canals which has been raiſed by the mills. But as ſoon as the tide riſes, the *ſluice* is ſhut, or it ſhuts of itſelf; and then, although the water of the river riſes above the level of the canals, it cannot enter them.

It often happens in ſpring, when it is neceſſary to drain the ſurface of the meadows quite dry, that the river is not low enough during the ebb to permit the ordinary canals to empty themſelves into it. They have contrived a reſource for this. Near ſome of the grand ſluices, at *Rotterdam* for inſtance, there are baſons raiſed from four to five feet above the ordinary canals, which are called *high canals*, in which windmills raiſe the water ſtill higher, which may then diſcharge itſelf into the river at the moment that it is loweſt.

Such then is the general mechaniſm, by which, of a country that otherwiſe would have remained in the boſom of the ocean, the moſt populous and fertile region has been formed. The rain-water, and that which ſometimes flows out by accidental breaches in the dikes, is collected in the ditches, raiſed by the wind-mills in the canals, and diſcharged by the ſluices, on one ſide into the *Meuſe*, on the other into the *Zuiderzee*, at two periods of the day in which the exterior water is low by the reflux of the tide. And if it ebb not enough for the level of the ordinary canals, the water is raiſed four or five feet at their extremity into the high canals; which again is accompliſhed by large wind-mills.

Some attention, no doubt, is neceſſary to contain the water within the canals, and to furniſh the country with a ſufficient quantity of wind-mills; but the greateſt vigilance is required for the ſluices and the dikes, as well thoſe of the rivers as thoſe of the ſea, in the places where there are no *downs* formed. There is reaſon to dread, that the bed of the rivers may be raiſed ſo high by the mud, that the dikes, which muſt be raiſed in proportion, ſhall not be able to reſiſt them in a great increaſe of water. This is an enemy continually to be combated. If the weſt winds have continued to drive for any time the waters of the Atlantic into the North Sea, and the north winds accumulate them upon the coaſts of Holland, the *Zuiderzee* and the *Meuſe* riſe, their waves beat againſt the dikes, and the fate of all Holland depends upon the reſiſtance of theſe ramparts which are ſo furiouſly attacked. Hence nothing is ſpared to render them impenetrable.

Dreadful inundations happen from time to time in conſequence of particular dikes giving way. A deſolation enſues hardly conceivable; the ſea and the river united ſeem to ruſh with combined fury upon that country which has been torn from them. When the water runs over a dike, it falls from ſuch a height on the inſide, that it forms a well of a monſtrous depth; and the beds of clay being pierced, the water of the river riſes up from the bottom. It is in vain to endeavour to fill it up by heaping materials upon it; no ſolid bed can be formed, which the water thus ſpringing up will not penetrate. The only

only resource is, to surround it with dikes, when the fall of the water in the river will allow it.

But this is not the greatest danger. Were nothing to be dreaded but the water which runs over the dike, the country is sufficiently extensive, and sufficiently provided against accidents, to receive this without any essential damage; for all those who apprehend any danger from the exterior waters are upon their guard against them. The openings in the dikes themselves are to be dreaded. These dikes, consisting only of an earthy clay, when the water gets above any particular part of them that has sunk thro' time, the stream running over tears the dike; and as soon as its thin covering of turf is carried off, a breach is made, through which the water rushes with increasing force, rendering its passage every moment wider and deeper. How much care then is required to maintain them every where impenetrable, and of a sufficient height!

The water which fills the canals and the ditches is almost entirely stagnant. The only circulation is caused by the rains, which fall on the whole surface, and which at last are carried off by the sluices. This is a great inconveniency to the cities in summer: For by the multitude of their canals the water circulates there more slowly than in other places; and I cannot comprehend how the *police* of Holland, so strict in so many other respects, have hitherto enacted no severe laws against throwing into the canals the filth of the cities; for that increases very considerably the unwholesomeness of these stagnant waters.

These lands rescued from the sea are exceedingly valuable from their great fertility. The peat which covers a great part of them, is an ample provision of vegetable substance; and the clay which supplies its place in other quarters, and is often found below it, being deposited there by the rivers, is a soil quite ready for the production of plants. The water, in short, which penetrates every part of the soil, and with which it can be covered when occasion requires, bestows upon vegetables of every kind a vigour unknown in dry countries.

The soil inclosed betwixt the downs and the dikes is of different kinds, and requires different modes of cultivation. In those places where the clay appears on the surface, or covered with a little sand or peat, you may make of it what you please in a moment; gardens, corn-lands, or meadows, only by mixing it a little. But when there is much sand or peat, the Dutchman, who is never content with a moderate fertility, carries off the superfluity.

They give the name of *dessablement* to that operation, by which the country behind the downs covered with sand is brought to a high degree of fertility; and under this sand, blown there by the winds from the sea, is found either *peat* or *clay*. This *dessablement* defrays its own expences, when performed with œconomy. Ditches are dug around the ground, which terminate at the great canals; by this means the sand is transported in boats, as also the superfluous peat, which sell at a high price in the cities.

In those places where the peat is found immediately on the surface, but too deep to permit a high degree of cultivation, a great part of it is carried off, almost down to the clay or sand which forms the ground of it; and this operation does much more than defray itself, since the peat serves for fuel throughout all Holland. But then it is necessary that these places be dried; for they are dug lower than the lowest natural level of any part of the country.

The ponds formed by these peat-pots are called *meiren*; and these they

they drain frequently in order to profit of the soil by cultivation. They are, for the most part, too deep to be drained by one range of windmills; for these machines act only by wheels revolving in a narrow box, and throw the water only four feet or four feet and a half higher into the canals which carry it off the country. If then the centre of the marsh is more than four feet and a half below the level of the large canals, the water must be raised as many times by new machines as there are spaces of four feet and a half below the level. They begin, then, by surrounding the whole pond with a small dike, and lower the water four feet and a half by the first range of mills. A dry surface is then formed all around the inside of the first dike, or only in some part of it. Then a second little dike is made on the inside; and new mills, throwing the water into a ditch betwixt the two dikes, to be taken up again there by the first mills, lowers the water four feet and a half more. They thus multiply the range of dikes and mills until such time as the pond be drained. They then dig ditches on the ground to collect the rain-water, and they spread upon it the earth taken from the ditches, which raises it somewhat.

It is a pity that Holland, which has so great occasion to raise her soil, should be obliged to sink it in order to get peat. It is much to be wished that they would encourage the plantation of trees in the immense *heaths* of Guelderland, in order to have a provision always renewed of combustible materials to supply the place of peat; the removal of which augments the danger of Holland, as it can never be reproduced; since, by drying the country, they destroy its principal cause.

A Narrative of a memorable Transaction between King Charles II. and George Downing, Esq; drawn up by ——— Lockhart, Author of the Memoirs of Scotland.

IT is very strange, that amongst so many dangers to which King Charles II. was exposed, and from which he was surprisingly and miraculously delivered, neither Lord Clarendon, nor any other author I have met with, takes the least notice of one of a very extraordinary nature which happened to him at Holland, and was as follows:

The King, when at Brussels, being desirous and resolved to see his sister the Princess of Orange, but withal under a necessity to make the journey with the utmost secrecy, did communicate his design to no person whatsoever. He ordered ——— Fleming, a servant of the Earl of Wigton, who was in his service, and of whose fidelity he neither then nor ever after did doubt, secretly to provide a good couple of horses, and have them ready at a certain place and time of the next ensuing night by his Majesty appointed; that Fleming with these horses should remain alone till he heard from the King. At the time appointed, the King (having gone to bed, and afterwards dressed himself, and privately gone out at a back-door, and leaving only a letter to some one of his servants in whom he confided, with an account of his having gone from thence for a few days, and with directions to keep his absence as secret as possible, under pretence of being indisposed) came to the place, where he found Fleming with the horses as he had directed. He then acquainted Fleming of his design to see his sister at the Hague; and not regarding the hazards he might be exposed to, away he went with this slender equi-

equipage and attendance, travelling through the most secret hye-ways, and contriving it so that he came to the Hague by six in the morning, and alighted at a scrub inn in a remote part of the town, where he was confident none would know him under the disguise he was then in. He immediately sent Fleming to acquaint his sister where he was, and to leave it to her to contrive the way and manner of having access to her so as not to be known. Fleming having dispatched his commission in a very short time (in less than an hour), was no sooner returned to the King (whom he found in the room where he had left him, and where he had been still alone) than an unknown person came and asked of the landlord, if two Frenchmen had not alighted at his house that morning. The landlord replied, that indeed two men had come, but of what country he knew not. The stranger desired him to tell them that he wanted to speak with them: which he having done, the King was much surprised, but withal inclined to see the person. Fleming opposed it; but the King being positive, the person was introduced, being an old reverend-like man, with a long grey beard and ordinary grey clothes; who looking and speaking to the King, told him, he was the person he wanted to speak to, and that all alone, on matters of importance. The King believing it might be perhaps a return from his sister, or being curious to know the result of such an adventure, desired Fleming to withdraw; which he refused, till the King taking him aside, told him there could be no hazard from such an old man, for whom he was too much, and commanded him to retire. They were no sooner alone, than the stranger bolt the door, (which brought the King to think on what might or would happen), and at the same time falling down on his knees, pulled off his very nice and artificial mask, and discovered himself to be Mr Downing (afterwards well known by the name of Sir George, and Ambassador from the King to the States after his restoration), then Envoy or Embassador from Cromwell to the States, being the son of one Downing an independent minister, who attended some of the parliament-men who were once sent to Scotland to treat with the Scots to join against the King, and who was a very active virulent enemy to the royal family, as appears from Lord Clarendon's history. The King, you may easily imagine, was a little surprised at the discovery; but Downing gave him no time for reflection, having immediately spoke to him in the following manner: That he hoped his Majesty would pardon him for any share he had acted, during the rebellion, against his royal interest; and assured him, that though he was just now in the service of the Usurper, he wished his Majesty as well as any of his subjects, and would, when an occasion offered, venture all for his service; and was hopeful what he was about to say would convince his Majesty of his sincerity. But before he mentioned the cause of his coming to him, he must insist that his Majesty would solemnly promise him not to mention what had happened, either to Fleming or any other person whatsoever, till it pleased God to restore his Majesty to his crown, when he said he should not desire it to be concealed; though even then he must likewise have his Majesty's promise not to ask him, or expect he should discover, how or when he came to know of his being there. The King having solemnly protested, and engaged on the terms required, Downing proceeded, and told him, That his master, the Usurper, being now at peace with the Dutch, and the States so dependent and obsequious to him, that they refused nothing he de-

desired; had with the greatest secrecy, in order to make it more effectual, entered into a treaty, by which, among other trifling matters agreed to *hinc inde*, the chief and indeed main end of the negotiation was, that the States stood engaged to seize and deliver up to the Usurper the person of his Majesty, if so be at any time he should happen by chance or design to come within their territories, when required thereto by any in his name; and that this treaty having been signed by the States, was sent to London, from whence it had returned but yesterday morning, and totally finished yesterday night betwixt him and a secret committee of the States. He represented his master's intelligence to be so good, that a discovery would be made even to himself (Downing) of his Majesty's being there; and if he neglected to apply to have him seized, his master would resent it to the highest, which would infallibly cost him his head, and deprive his Majesty of a faithful servant. And being desirous to prevent the miserable consequences of what would follow, if his being here were discovered, he resolved to communicate the danger he was in; and for fear of a discovery, he had disguised himself, being resolved to trust no person with the secret. He then proposed that his Majesty should immediately mount his horses, and make all the dispatch imaginable out of the States territories: that he himself would return home, and under pretence of sickness lie longer a-bed than usual; and that when he thought his Majesty was so far off as to be out of danger to be overtaken, he would go to the States and acquaint them, that he understood his Majesty was in town, and require his being seized on the terms of the late treaty: that he knew they would comply, and send to the place directed; but on finding his Majesty was gone off so far as to be safe, he would propose to make no further noise about it, lest it should discover the treaty, and prevent his Majesty's falling afterwards into their hands. The King immediately followed his advice; and he returning home, every thing was acted and happened as he proposed and foretold. The King having thus escaped this imminent danger, most religiously performed what he had promised, never mentioning any part of this history till after his restoration, and not then desiring to know how Downing's intelligence came, (which he never discovered) though he (the King) often said it was a mystery. For no person knew of his design till he was on horseback; and that he could not think Fleming went and discovered him to Downing: beside, he so soon returned from his sister, he could not have time; Downing having come much about the time Fleming returned.

I have heard this story told by several who frequented King Charles's court, particularly by the Earl of Cromartie; who said, the next year after the restoration, he with the Duke of Rothes and several other Scots of quality, being one night with the King over a bottle, they all complained of an impertinent speech Downing had made in parliament, reflecting on the Scots nation; which they thought his Majesty should resent so as to discard him from court, and withdraw his favours from him. The King replied, he did not approve of what he had said, and would reprove him for it; but to go farther he could not well do, because of this story, which he repeated in the terms here narrated; which made such an impression on all present, that they freely forgave what had past, and Rothes asked liberty to begin his health in a bumper.

REMARKS on NEW BOOKS.

Sermons preached before the University of Oxford in the year 1784, at the Lecture founded by the Reverend JOHN BAMPTON, *M. A. late Canon of Salisbury; by* JOSEPH WHITE, *B. D.* 8*vo.* 7s.

THE lecturer, in his comparison of Christianity and Mahometanism, conducts us through a path, which, though not absolutely new, was never before so fully opened, or agreeably diversified, and strewed on every side with such fruits and flowers. The design of these lectures is sublime, and the execution is worthy of the design. Of course, there is imagination, sentiment, diction, a perpetual combination of novelty and importance; the art of painting facts and drawing characters; much knowledge of original books, and yet more knowledge of men in the original: In a word, learning, science, taste, and truth, strong eloquence, and eloquence strong on the right side, conspire to exalt these sermons very high indeed!—very high even among the *few classics* we have of divinity discourses in England.

G. M.

CONSILIA; *or, Thoughts upon several Subjects; small* 8*vo.* 2s. 6d.

THESE "moral remarks upon life at large, and the conduct requisite to make that life happy," are comprised under the heads of religion, affection, and benevolence, conduct and conversation, pleasure and amusement; all which are treated with such a spirit of *truth and soberness*, and such an unaffected piety and benevolence, as must recommend the work to every serious and considerate reader. *G. M.*

Sonnets and other Poems, with a Versification of the Six Bards of OSSIAN, 8*vo.*

THIS collection, which consists of sixteen sonnets, five odes, some translations of Horace, &c. besides the six bards, gives us a very favourable idea of the poetical abilities of this young bard; and shows, that he has drunk deep of the Pierian spring of the best authors, Milton in particular: And every reader of taste, we doubt not, will be of the same opinion when he has perused them. *N. R.*

Letters from Monf. RACINE *the Elder to Monf.* RACINE *his Son when a Youth; small* 8*vo,* 2s.

THE high reputation of M. Racine as a dramatic writer is so generally known, that it must give sterling value to whatever has flowed from his pen. The letters before us are genuine. This epistolary intercourse with his son depicts not only his knowledge of the world, but the sentiments of a good heart overflowing with paternal affection. *T. and C.*

The Poetical Works of SAMUEL JOHNSON, *L. L. D. small.* 8*vo,* 2s. 6d. *sewed.*

THIS collection seems to be authentic. We shall not comment upon its merits, as we do not think poetry the Doctor's *forte;* though his satire, intitled *London*, in imitation of Juvenal's third satire, does him credit as a bard; and his *Vanity of Human Wishes*, suggested by the same author in his tenth satire, would not disgrace the pen of any of our modern poets. *T. and C.*

History of the Public Revenues of the British Empire, by JOHN SINCLAIR *Esq;* 4*to,* 10s. 6d. *boards.*

THIS work is full of important information. The first part begins

gins with the mode made use of by the ancient Britons for raising a revenue, and traces it under the Roman and Saxon government, and under the Houses of Plantagenet, Lancaster, York, Tudor, and Stuart. The second part treats of providing for the extraordinary expences of a nation, of the national debt, of the steps hitherto taken to reduce it, and of the plans suggested for that purpose.

Observations on the Manufactures, Trade, and present State of Ireland; by JOHN LORD SHEFFIELD; *8vo.* 7s.

THESE observations eminently distinguish the noble author among the superior ranks of society by the peculiar direction of considerable abilities and great industry to objects of public utility. The remarks made, and hints for improvement given, by his Lordship, may perhaps not be cordially viewed by the manufacturers of this country; but they deserve well to be attentively considered by those of Ireland. Lord Sheffield, with a liberality superior to all narrow considerations, while he endeavours to stimulate the Irish to prosecute their own interests, blends those interests with ours, so as to render them common to both countries. *M. R.*

The Poetical Works of DAVID GARRICK, *Esq; 2 vols; small 8vo.* 8s.

THESE volumes contain the works of one whose powers both on the stage and in private life never failed to afford the highest degree of entertainment. They consist of the poetical sallies of Mr Garrick's muse, than which there has scarcely been one more sprightly, more various, more inoffensive, or more amusing. The prologues and epilogues, to the number of 110, are here arranged chronologically; and as they turn on the incidents of the day, furnish no imperfect view of the manners and fashions of the times for near 40 years. Prefixed is an account of the author's life, and two very useful and apparently accurate lists, one of the characters which he performed, and the other of his dramatic works. Mr Sheridan's admirable monody is also subjoined. This collection has been long wanted, and seems to be executed with care and attention. *E. R.*

Poems upon several Occasions by JOHN MILTON, *with Notes by* THOMAS WARTON; *8vo.* 8s. *boards.*

MR WARTON, in this edition, has raised a durable monument, on which his name will appear with a splendor little inferior to Milton's. The text is carefully corrected in numerous instances; and the notes, which are historical as well as critical and explanatory, serve greatly to illustrate the text of the poet. Those on Lycidas and Comus deserve particular attention: and indeed wherever he undertakes to defend his author, his remarks are extremely judicious; and even where they fail in their object, they evince the commentator's ingenuity and address. As this volume contains only a part of Milton's lesser poems, we indulge the hope that Mr Warton will extend his cares, if not to the whole of the remaining poems, at least to Samson Agonistes, and the Paradise Regained; both of which possess beauties which the world have hitherto overlooked, and which Mr Warton is well qualified to point out and to illustrate. *C. R.*

History and Practice of Aërostation; by TIBERIUS CAVALLO, *F. R. S. 8vo.* 6s. *in boards.*

SINCE aërostation continues to be fashionable, an abstract of the different voyages, and the means of

repeating the experiment with success, will be generally interesting: Mr Cavallo has rendered it also very entertaining. The history of the attempts to fly, previous to the fire-balloon of Montgolfier, is a pleasing performance; and it will gratify the vanity of the French philosophers, to perceive how desperate the success once seemed to be. Mr Cavallo and Dr Black indeed contest, with justice, the priority of invention of air-balloons: but the credit of Messrs Charles and Roberts is scarcely diminished by these claims; for they seem not to have heard of the English experiments on this subject, and were led to employ inflammable air, merely from suspecting that Montgolfier's balloon was raised by the assistance of a peculiar gas from the burning straw. It would be unjust not to select Dr Black's very modest and intelligent letter to Dr James Lind.

"Dear Sir,

"The person who first discovered with exactness the specific gravity of inflammable air, was, so far as I know, Mr Cavendish: I never heard of any experiments made with that intention before his appeared in the Philosophical Transactions for the year 1766. It had been my constant practice before, to show, every year, in what manner it burns when pure and unmixed with air, and how it explodes when air is mixed with it before it is fired; but Mr Cavendish made a variety of such mixtures by rule and measure, and describes in the same paper the manner in which they severally explode. As soon as I read the above paper, it occurred to me, as an obvious consequence of Mr Cavendish's discovery, that if a sufficiently thin and light bladder were filled with inflammable air, the bladder and air in it, would necessarily form a mass lighter than the same bulk of atmospheric air, and which would rise in it. This I mentioned to some of my friends; and in my lectures, the next time I had occasion to speak of inflammable air, which was either in the year 1767 or 1768; and, as I thought it would be an amusing experiment for the students, I applied to Dr Monro's Dissector, to prepare for me the allantois of a calf. The allantois was prepared; but not until after some time had passed, and when I was engaged with another part of my course, and did not choose to interrupt the business then going on: so I dropped the experiment for that year, and in the subsequent years I only mentioned the thing as an obvious and self-evident consequence of Mr Cavendish's discovery; but finding generally some difficulty in providing an allantois at the proper time, I never made the experiment, which I considered as merely amusing. About two months ago I was informed, by a gentleman in the south of Ireland, that he had tried it, and that it succeeds perfectly well."

The practice of aërostation is explained with great perspicuity and exactness. The problems are not indeed demonstrated, but their foundation is evident: we would, however, recommend a previous trial of the specific gravity of the air produced in the particular operation; since, in different experiments, there seems to be some variety in this respect.

Mr Cavallo adds little to the means of directing balloons, or to the uses which we may derive from them.

But, on the whole, this seems a very rational and entertainining performance: If aërostation is likely to be advantageous, we shall join in the author's wish, 'That the learned and encouragers of useful knowledge may unanimously concur in endeavouring to promote it.'

Letter

Letters to a Young Nobleman, upon Various Subjects, particularly on Government and Civil Liberty; 8vo. 6s. *bound.*

IF the doctrines of Dr Price, as laid down by him in his observations on Civil Liberty, and other treatises, continue to exert any influence on the minds of the people, it will doubtless be admitted by all those who entertain different political sentiments, that every thing which can resist their tendency should be called into operation. In this view of the subject, we must own that we know not any antidote more likely to prove efficacious than the letters before us. They discover acute discernment, close investigation, and sound and dispassionate argument. We think, however, that he inclines too much to an extinction of that jealousy of the crown, which, though liable to abuse in a limited monarchy, is nevertheless a salutary principle.

C. R.

Thoughts on Executive Justice with respect to our Criminal Laws; 12mo, 2s. 6d.

THE amazing increase of thieves and robbers, is by the author of this pamphlet, attributed to what he terms a mistaken lenity in the judges. The circumstance he alludes to, is that almost general practice of the judges on the circuits of reprieving the greater part of the convicts before they leave the town. This, he thinks, gives great encouragement to vice, and brings numbers to the gallows, who would otherwise have escaped it. The *uncertainty* of the punishment is often the chief inducement to the commission of the crime; and therefore he gives it as his opinion, that execution should invariably and indiscriminately follow conviction.

But would not this be to rob the crown of one of its brightest jewels?

Eu. M.

The Life of THOMAS CRANMER, *Archbishop of Canterbury; by* W. GILPIN, *M. A.* 8*vo*, 3s. 6d. *boards.*

WE have perused this volume with much satisfaction as well as entertainment. The style is pleasing; the materials are judiciously collected, and well arranged. The works of Strype, as also Fox's *Acts* and *Monuments*, have afforded great assistance. In fine, Mr Gilpin will certainly be esteemed by every reader for the candour, the impartiality, and the love of truth and liberty which he discovers throughout the whole of this performance; and which he had formerly manifested in the lives of Latimer, Wycliffe, and other first reformers.

L. M.

Remarks upon the Landed and Commercial Policy of England, from the Invasion of the Romans to the Accession of James I. 2 vols, 6s. *sewed.*

THESE remarks may be considered as a general history of the agriculture and commerce of England to the beginning of the 17th century. The subject, separately viewed, affords no brilliant incidents which can prove interesting to curiosity; but it places in a clear light the necessary connection between these useful arts, and that state of public freedom in which alone they ever can flourish in any extraordinary degree. Most of the observations contained in this production are to be found in Dr Henry's History of Great Britain, and other works; but they have the advantage of being connected by the author of the Remarks in an uninterrupted detail.

A Journal, kept in a Journey from Bassora to Bagdad; over the Little Desart to Aleppo, Cyprus, Rhodes, Zante, Corfu; and Otranto in Italy, 8vo, 3s.

THE journey which forms the subject of this narrative is now not unfrequently performed by passengers from the East-Indies; and as the rout is far from being yet well known to British travellers, a faithful detail of it may to such prove particularly serviceable. The extortion practised by the governors and other civil officers, with the treachery of linguists and interpreters, constitute the chief incidents of the journey. In the preface we find the following remarkable anecdote.

'The celebrated Aaron Hill, when in Egypt, had the curiosity to examine a catacomb; he was accompanied in his expedition by two other gentlemen, and conducted by a guide (one of the natives of the country). They at length arrived at the spot; and without taking notice of some fellows who were sauntering about the place, they descended by ropes into the vault. No sooner were they let down, than they were presented with a spectacle which struck them with terror: two gentlemen, apparently starved to death, lay before them. One of these unhappy victims had a tablet in his hand, on which was written in pathetic language the story of their lamentable fate. It seems they were brothers of rank and family in Venice; and having, in the course of their travels, intrusted themselves with one of the natives, for the purpose of visiting the inside of the catacomb, the perfidious villain had left them there to perish. The danger to which Mr Hill and his friends were exposed instantly alarmed them; they had scarce read the shocking tale, when looking up, they beheld their inhuman guide, assisted by two others whom they had seen near the spot, closing the entrance into the vault. They were now reduced to the utmost distress; however, they drew their swords, and were determined to make some desperate effort to rescue themselves from a scene so truly dreadful. With this resolution they were groping about at random in the dark, when they were startled at the groans of some one seemingly in the agonies of death: they attended to the dismal sound; and at length, by means of a glimmering light from the top of the catacomb, they saw a man just murdered; and a little beyond they discovered his inhuman murderers flying with the utmost precipitation. They pursued them immediately; and though they were not able to come up with them, they, however, had the good fortune to reach the opening through which these wretches escaped out of the cavern, before they had time to roll the stone on the top of it. Thus Mr Hill and his friends were by a miracle saved.'

Singular Anecdote. Translated from the French *.

MY Lord *Stairs*, one of the first noblemen in England, received a card one day, appointing a rendezvous with him near Somerset House, where a person would wait for him towards evening. My Lord, who was

* The editor has inserted this anecdote as a specimen of the great liberties which, in our age, are taken with history.

It is truly remarked, that Field-Marshall Stair, the person called *Milord Stairs*, was possessed of singular intrepidity; but as for the rest of the tale, what follows will enable the reader to form a judgment of it.

Field-

naturally brave and intrepid, did not hesitate a moment; the only precaution he took was to arm himself with a sword and a pair of pistols. He accordingly at the place appointed met a person; who, without speaking a word, made a sign for him to follow him. After having walked an hour, he found himself in a very unfrequented street, and was led to the door of a mean wretched looking house. His guide opened the door; and, pointing to the stair-case, *Walk up, my Lord*, said he; and immediately shut the door behind him. He entered a room furnished after the fashion of *William the Conqueror's* time, in the midst of which hung a dim lamp, whose pale gleams seemed to light a charnel-house. "Approach," said one with a feeble voice which came from the bed. My Lord took the lamp, opened the curtain, and stood astonished at the sight of an old man with a pale visage, and who seemed withered to a skeleton. This old man, after having expressed his joy at seeing him, put a casket into his hand, containing papers of great importance, regarding his family-estate. These papers consisted of three different bonds in favour of his family, of which he was before ignorant. In vain did my Lord beg to know to whom he was indebted for this service; the old man was obstinate in concealing his name.

He was preparing next day to return to his benefactor, when he received a letter sealed with his own arms, and signed, *Sir George Stairs!* This old man was his great-grandfather. His story is shortly this: Having lost his father and mother soon after his birth, he had been brought up by an aunt. This aunt, formerly maid of honour to the Queen, mother to *Charles I.* had been abused, and then abandoned by that prince. The subjects of the unfortunate Charles having revolted against him, Sir George was preparing to enter into the service of his sovereign, when his good aunt told him her story. The young *Stairs*, whose indignation was roused at the recital, swore that *Charles* should fall by no hand but his. "I cannot now tell you, my Lord, by what means, means sought with equal eagerness, and attended with equal danger, my rage against this prince, which, from that fatal moment, continued equally relentless, at last completed my vengeance, and fulfilled my execrable oath; nor can I now inform you of those events which the remorse following upon my crime have produced. All these details, in the condition you saw me, are now too painful for recollection. It is enough for you to know, that you may abhor me as much as I abhor myself, that the man who cut off the head of *Charles the First*, who appeared upon the scaffold in a mask, was no other than——your unworthy, your criminal great-grandfather, *Sir George Stairs*."

Anecdote

Field Marshal Stair succeeded to the title on the death of his father in 1706-7. So that this interview with his great-grandfather [*bisayeul*] must be laid after that time.

The father of his great grandfather died in 1586; so that in 1707 his great grandfather must, at least, have been *one hundred and twenty years old*.

He is said, in the story, to have been "the *young* Stairs," at the breaking out of the civil wars in the reign of Charles I. It is impossible that he could have been less than 53 or 54 at that time.

His son, grandfather of the Field Marshal, was married in a year or two after.

It appears, on record, that the grandfather of the Field Marshal had at that time the designation of *Laird of Stair*.

The name of the great-grandfather was not *Sir George Stairs*, but *James Dalrymple*.

Instead of being alive in 1707, he died in 1625. So that he was dead upwards of *fourscore* years before this celebrated interview.

Anecdote of the late Dr FLAMSTEAD.

HE was many years Aſtronomer Royal at Greenwich Obſervatory; a humouriſt, and of warm paſſions. Perſons of his profeſſion are often ſuppoſed by the common people to be capable of foretelling events. In this perſuaſion, a poor waſherwoman at Greenwich, who had been robbed at night of a parcel of linnen to her almoſt ruin if forced to pay for it, came to him, and with great anxiety earneſtly requeſted him to uſe his art, to let her know where her things were, and who robbed her. The Doctor happened to be in the humour to joke; he bid her ſtay, he would ſee what he could do; perhaps he might let her know where ſhe might find them, but who the perſons were he would not undertake: as ſhe could have no poſitive proof to convict them, it would be uſeleſs. He then ſet about drawing of circles, ſquares, &c. to amuſe her; and after ſome time, told her, if ſhe would go into a particular field, that in ſuch a part of it, in a dry ditch, ſhe would find them all bundled up in a ſheet. The woman went and found them; came with great haſte and joy to thank the Doctor, and offered him half-a-crown as a token of gratitude, being as much as ſhe could afford. The Doctor, ſurpriſed himſelf, told her, "Good woman, I am heartily glad you have found your linen; but I aſſure you I knew nothing of it, and intended only to joke with you, and then to have read you a lecture on the folly of applying to any perſon to know events not in the human power to tell; but I ſee the d-v-l has a mind I ſhould deal with him; I am determined I will not: ſo never come, or ſend any one, to me any more, on ſuch occaſions; for I never will attempt ſuch an affair again whilſt I live." This ſtory Dr Flamſtead told the late reverend and learned Mr Whiſton, his intimate friend, from whom I have more than once heard it.

An inſtance of Human Credulity.

DURING the ſeaſon of miracles worked by Bridget Boſtock of Cheſhire, who healed all diſeaſes by prayer, faith, and an embrocation of faſting ſpittles, multitudes reſorted to her from all parts, and kept her ſalival glands in full employ. Sir John Pryce, with a high ſpirit of enthuſiaſm, wrote to this wonderful woman to make him a viſit at Newton-Hall, in order to reſtore to him his third and favourite wife. His letter will beſt tell the foundation on which he built his ſtrange hope, and very uncommon requeſt.

Eurydices oro properata retexite fila.

Purport of Sir JOHN PRYCE's Letter to Mrs BRIDGET BOSTOCK.

1748.

"Madam,

"HAVING received information by repeated advices, both public and private, that you have of late performed many wonderful cures, even where the beſt phyſicians have failed; and that the means uſed appear to be very inadequate to the effects produced; I cannot but look upon you as an extraordinary and highly-favoured perſon. And why may not the ſame moſt merciful God, who enables you to reſtore ſight to the blind, hearing to the deaf, and ſtrength to the lame, alſo enable you to raiſe the dead to life? Now, having lately loſt a wife, whom I moſt tenderly loved, my children an excellent ſtepmother, and our acquaintances a very dear and valuable friend, you will lay us all under the higheſt obligations: and I earneſtly intreat you for God Almighty's ſake, that you will put up your petitions to the throne of grace on our behalf, that the deceaſed

ceased may be restored to us, and the late Dame Eleanor Pryce be raised from the dead.—If your personal attendance appears to you to be necessary, I will send my coach and six, with proper servants, to wait on you hither, whenever you please to appoint.—Recompence of any kind, that you could propose, would be made with the utmost gratitude; but I wish the bare mention of it is not offensive to both God and you.

I am, Madam,

Your most obedient, and very much afflicted humble servant,

JOHN PRYCE."

The PARADISE *of* SCHEDAD.—*An Arabian Tale.*

A LONG time before the prophet of true believers had enlightened the world, and the holy Alcoran had descended from the seventh heaven, Schedad reigned in Yemen, with absolute power, which he used without moderation. He was a voluptuous, a cruel, an extravagant, and an impious tyrant: he was a monster rather than a man, and he had the ambition of being a god. If he had wished to be so only in his court, they say the courtiers of these times would have adored without scruple, himself, his monkey, and his parroquet: but Schedad was desirous that all his subjects should recognise his pretended divinity, and that they seriously and in good faith should believe in it.

To succeed in this project, he conceived a scheme, which to him appeared infallible. He made a circular wall of prodigious height and extent be built in the most beautiful spot of Yemen. This wall was bordered on the inside with a forest of pine trees, which served as a belt or crown to the greatest and most magnificent garden one can possibly imagine. There were meadows adorned with all the flowers of the spring, and orchards which promised all the riches of autumn. There were rivulets which glided in silence over golden sands; or which, rushing rapidly over a bed of pearls, mixed their murmurs with the warbling of the birds. On one side, a person might admire himself in a small lake, where fish of all kinds and colours were sporting: On the other, one might descend into a delicious valley, whose freshness is preserved by a sheet of water which tumbles from a rock. A little further on, one might walk among perfumed arbours always green, where the spikenard, the balm, and the aloes, grow at the foot of palm-trees and cedars. Nature every where shows herself with all her charms; and the timid art which has unveiled her, hardly allows herself to be perceived.

In the centre of this enchanted solitude, a round hill arises with a gentle slope; then growing flat at once, forms on the summit a vast esplanade. There Schedad made a superb palace be constructed, which he furnished with equal elegance and magnificence. The pomp of luxury was there found joined with the acquirements of effeminacy, and the immense apparatus of little conveniences. One might there find the artists of pleasure, cooks, musicians, dancers, buffoons, and even poets. Schedad thought little of these last; but what he prized above all the rest was a numerous swarm of young girls, whom he took care to scatter over the palace and the gardens. They were beautiful as the heavenly *houris*, somewhat less pure, but much more lively and sprightly.

When every thing was ready for the execution of his design, Schedad was in haste to publish this strange edict, which was affixed on all the temples.

"Schedad, the god of Yemen, to our faithful adorers, sends health and happiness. As we intend to surpass in liberality all other gods, who only promise happiness after death, we make it known unto you, that we have created in the plain of Iram a paradise, where you shall enjoy all the pleasures of this life. We shall admit into that place, at a convenient season, all those among you, who neglecting every superfluous virtue, shall believe sincerely in us, and shall submit themselves without review to our divine will. We shall admit there at present, and without any further proof, our blessed servants, whose names are comprehended in the list annexed to this present edict. O people of Yemen! encourage yourselves to follow the example they leave you, and merit the crown which they have obtained."

Should you wish to know who were these blessed servants of Schedad? Some of the most impudent flatterers; some ministers of his oppressions and of his debaucheries; some despicable women who had yielded to his desires; some others more artful, who only promised to repair there, and these were best treated in this promotion. Scarcely was this edict published, when Schedad kept his word

with

with the new saints. He conducted them with great solemnity to the palace of *Iram*, where he left them, desiring them to enjoy in peace the happiness he had prepared for them, which his frequent visits should render more perfect. He himself in going out shut the gate of the sacred inclosure, with an order to the soldiers who guarded it without to kill without mercy all the profane who should dare to approach it.

In the mean time, the blessed gave themselves up without reserve to the rapture into which the view alone of their new habitation had thrown them. For the first time in their life they admired, nay almost loved, the tyrant of Yemen. They even believed, as if he had been present, that the author of so many delights could be only a god. But their faith was of no longer duration than their happiness, which was indeed extremely short. Pleasures, varied in appearance, but which at bottom were eternally the same; pleasures easy to be procured, constant, and immoderate; soon became insipid employments or hateful drudgery. By being obliged to enjoy them, they had no longer relish for them; they perceived, on the other hand, that disgust and disquiet paid little respect to the paradise of Schedad, and that diseases without intermission paid still less. This was not all. The blessed had been a little acquainted in the world, and did not like each other: but on seeing one another nearer, they became better acquainted, and mutually detested each other. From that time, no more society, no more conversation. Shut up in their apartments, or dispersed over the terrasses of the palace, they looked with sorrow on the delicious gardens which surrounded them: they only saw there the verdure of their prison. Their eyes were more willingly fixed on the Red Sea, and on a chain of mountains they perceived at a distance. What would they not have given to wander at liberty through these frightful rocks, or to sail on that sea, discredited by so many shipwrecks.

In this situation were the blessed when the god of Yemen honoured them with his first visit. He came to add the supreme good of his presence to the pleasures with which he believed them enchanted. But who can figure his surprise and indignation when he saw sorrow painted on every countenance: and when in place of hymns and songs, he heard only complaints and murmurs! He dissembled, however, and contained himself as much as possible: he joined caresses to reproaches; and by threatening and cajolling his saints, he made them promise that they would endeavour to accustom themselves to paradise, and to enjoy their good fortune with patience. But this extorted promise hardly removed his fears. He trusted more to an order he left with the guards of the outer wall; which was to put to death no longer the profane, but the saints themselves if they attempted to scale the wall.

In spite of all these precautions, Schedad returned to his capital with the most lively inquietude, which was but too well founded. He no longer flattered himself; he saw that his paradise and his divinity would tumble together into such discredit as never more to raise themselves. To parry this fatal stroke, he had recourse to the only expedient which remained. He proclaimed, by a second edict, that seeing the ingratitue of his people, and their little eagerness to deserve paradise, he was about to create a hell, where unbelievers and impious persons should no longer mock him. As it is more easy to torment men than to make them happy, the new project would probably have succeeded better than the other: but they did not leave Schedad time to execute it. That cruel extravagance alarmed people of all ranks, and exhausted their patience. The tyrant was dethroned; and they deliberated a long time on the punishment they should inflict. At last, they could think of none more proper than to shut him up in the garden of Iram with the vile wretches with whom he had peopled it, and to shut the gate of that infernal paradise. There, torn with remorse, and overwhelmed with affronts, the god of Yemen ought to be convinced, that there is a supreme God, who confounds the projects of impiety; and who has only promised happiness to virtue.

P O E T R Y.

ODE *for his* MAJESTY'S BIRTH-DAY, June 4. 1785.

I.

AMID the thunder of the war,
True Glory guides no echoing car;
Nor bids the sword her bays bequeath,
Nor stains with blood her brightest wreath:
No plumed host her tranquil triumphs own;
Nor spoils of murder'd multitudes she brings,
To swell the state of her distinguish'd kings,
And deck her chosen throne.

On that fair throne, to Britain dear,
With the flowering olive twin'd,
High she hangs the hero's spear;
And there, with all the palms of peace combin'd,
Her unpolluted hands the milder trophy rear.
To kings like these, her genuine theme,
The Muse a blameless homage pays;
To GEORGE, of kings like these supreme,
She wishes honour'd length of days,
Nor prostitutes the tribute of her lays.

II.

'Tis his to bid neglected genius glow,
And teach the regal bounty how to flow.
His tutelary scepter's sway
The vindicated Arts obey,
And hail their patron King:
'Tis his, to judgment's steady line
Their flights fantastic to confine,
And yet expand their wing:
The fleeting forms of fashion to restrain,
And bind capricious Taste in Truth's eternal chain.
Sculpture, licentious now no more,
From Greece her great example takes,
With Nature's warmth the marble wakes,
And spurns the toys of modern lore:
In native beauty, simply plann'd,
Corinth, thy tufted shafts ascend;
The Graces guide the painter's hand
His magic mimicry to blend.

III.

While such the gifts his reign bestows,
Amid the proud display,
Those gems around the throne he throws
That shed a softer ray:
While from the summmits of sublime renown
He wafts his favour's universal gale,
With those sweet flowers he binds a crown
That bloom in Virtue's humble vale:
With rich munificence, the nuptial tye
Unbroken he combines:——
Conspicuous in a nation's eye,
The sacred pattern shines!
Fair Science to reform, reward, and raise,
To spread the lustre of domestic praise;
To foster Emulation's holy flame,
To build Society's majestic frame;
Mankind to polish and to teach,
Be this the monarch's aim;
Above Ambition's giant reach
The monarch's meed to claim.

KING STEPHEN *and his* COURTIER *.

AVAUNT! ye vile disloyal throng,
Who think a monarch may do wrong;
I'll prove in every rebel's spite,
Ev'n all he touches must do right.

King Stephen was a worthy Peer,
His breeches cost him half-a-crown,
In which a watch this King did wear,
All in a fob of fustian brown.——
" Heav'ns!" cries Dean Mills, in sage amaze,
" A watch, and worn in Stephen's days!
" This anecdote we do not read
" In Baker, Holingshead, or Speed.
" *Watches when first invented*—seek 'em
" In Brother Trusler's *vade mecum.*
" —See here—*first brought to England*—ev'n
" So late as fifteen ninety-seven.
" —Now Stephen reign'd"——
I care not when.
Doctor, you interrupt my pen.
'Tis rude to stop a staunch old Tory
Thus at the outset of his story:
If other folks me tripping catch
About King Stephen and his watch,
You prudently should wink, I ween;
You—a grave churchman, nay a Dean!

With watch in fob, as first I said,
King Stephen strutted o'er the mead,
And met a Courtier slim, yet sleek,
With foretop high, and smirking cheek,
Supple his loins, his hamstrings weak;
Who crouch'd, and stretch'd his beak before,
Like goose approaching a barn-door.
" Hold up thy head," King Stephen cry'd,
" And walk a while at our left side.
" Sir Courtier! of our courtly train
" We hold thee the most gallant swain;
" Nor is there any squire we know
" Who speaks so smooth, or bows so low;
" Whether from nature, or from art,
" Yet sure we are thou top'st thy part.
" Here take this watch, we've set it so,
" To tell thee when to come and go,
" To fetch and carry as we please;"
He bow'd, then took it on his knees.

Some six months after (scene the same),
With cap in hand our Courtier came
To meet King Stephen in his walk;
When, as fit prelude to more talk,
The King said, " Courtier, what's o'clock?"
The Courtier, in his true-blue frock,
Making a most obsequious slide,
Produc'd his watch with humble pride;
And,

* King *Stephen* presented a watch to one of his courtiers ycleped Smelt, and condescended to regulate it with his own royal hands. Smelt being in a promiscuous company, inquiry was made after the hour of the day. Watches were drawn out; when the differences were marked, and consisted, as usual, in the variation of some minutes, from one to ten or fifteen. The royal watch alone was before the foremost an hour and a half, and was consequently reprobated as heretical. Smelt, however, insisted that his was right, and *must* be right, being regulated by infallible royalty, &c. &c.

And, in a soft and silken tone,
Cry'd, "Sire! 'tis half an hour past one."
"Past one! odds body," said the King,
"Look at the sun, 'tis no such thing;
"He is not near his noon-tide height,
"Beshrew me 'tis not much past eight."

"My Liege," replied the dainty creature,
"I rest upon my regulator:
"This best of watches, best of things,
"Giv'n by the very best of Kings,
"Is ever present to my view;
"The sun may err, *it* must be true.
"O ne'er shall my disloyal eyes
"Trust yon vague time-piece of the skies.
"That sun—I thank him for his light,
"It shows me this more splendid sight,
"This pledge of your refulgent favour;
"But let not the vain thing endeavour
"To shine the ruler of my time:
"No, gracious Sire, both eve and prime,
"Your gift shall regulate my motions,
"My meals, secretions, nay devotions.
"And may you, Sire! (which Heav'n forsend)
"With one dread frown my being end,
"If e'er my faith so far should faulter,
"As dare the watch you set to alter!
"Which, like its donor, day and night,
"Still tick-tacks obstinately right;
"Whose every wheel disdains to run
"Directed by yon factious sun,
"And goes, my Sov'reign, I assure ye,
"As well *de facto* as *de jure*."

King Stephen smil'd, and gracious cry'd,
"Troth thou hast taken the right side;
"The sun's a Whig; as I'm a sinner,
"'Tis time to dress, and go to dinner."

To EMMA *in England; by the Hon. C. J. Fielding.*

Nice, March 4.

WHEN nature to your eyes can show
No sight the drooping heart to chear,
But one wide waste of trackless snow,
And frozen streams and forests drear;
A wish in Emma's heart may rise
This warmer clime's delights to prove,
To breathe the bliss of milder skies,
And muse amidst the orange grove!
Yet this fond bosom pants the while,
For winter's frown and Emma's smile.

What tho', where'er I turn my eyes,
A thousand beauties court my view:
Here, mountains melting in the skies;
There, the calm world of water's blue.
Tho' Flora paints th' enamel'd ground,
Usurping winter's tyrant reign;
Tho' Plenty pours her blessings round,
Unsatisfy'd I still remain;
And this fond bosom pants the while
For winter's frown and Emma's smile.

What joy to me can roses give?
What joy to me the lilies fair?
Unless the chaplet I cou'd weave,
And place it round my angel's hair?
'Tis true, their various hues combin'd
May serve to charm another's eye;
But, bringing Emma to my mind,
In me they only raise a sigh,
And make this bosom pant the while,
For winter's frown and Emma's smile.

O, Emma! were I now with thee,
What soft delight this heart wou'd own!
How vain wou'd winter's terrors be!
How fearless wou'd I meet his frown!
To these glad eyes his brow wou'd seem,
No looks, but those of joy, to wear;
And raptur'd love wou'd fondly dream,
He saw May's richest garland there;
Nor this fond bosom think the while,
On winter's frown, but Emma's smile.

In ANSWER *to* * * * * *.

AND durst thou, then, insulting youth, demand
A second spoil from love's impoverish'd store?
Shall strains like thine a second kiss command,
Thankless for one, because I gave no more?

One lamp irradiates all yon azure heaven,
One polar star directs the pilot's way;
Yet what bold wretch complains no more were given,
Or doubts the blessing of each friendly ray?

One timorous kiss, which multitudes might bode,
At once thy sun and guiding star had prov'd,
If, while thy lips beneath its pressure glow'd,
And thy tongue flatter'd, thou had'st truly lov'd.

The flame which burns upon the virgin cheek,
The rising sigh, half utter'd, half supprest,
To him who fondly loves, will more than speak
What wav'ring thoughts divide th'impassion'd breast.

Such soft confusion could the Moor disarm,
And his rough heart, like Desdemona's, move;
But soon her easy weakness broke the charm,
And, ere her life she lost, she lost her love.

No

No—if I hate thee, wherefore should I press
A treach'rous contract with love's favourite seal?
And, if I wish thy future hours to bless,
Ah! why, too soon, that anxious care reveal?

A ready conquest oft the victor scorns,
His laurels fade, whose foe, ere battle, yields;
No shouts attend the warrior who returns
To claim the palm of uncontested fields.

But banish lawless wishes from thy soul,
While yet my hate or love is undeclar'd;
Perhaps, e'er many years in circles roll,
Thou'lt think Eliza but a poor reward.

For, O! my kisses ne'er shall teem with art,
My faithful bosom forms but one design—
To study well the wife's, the mother's part,
And learn to keep thee, ere I make thee mine.
ELIZA.

For the monument of ROSE, *a favourite Spaniel; by the Earl of Carlisle.*

WHOE'ER thou art whom chance shall hither lead,
O'er the green turf with friendly caution tread;
For in the bosom of this beechen shade
A lovely favourite's bones in peace are laid.
She asks no pity, your compassion spare,
Soon your own woes may want the gushing tear.
Happy her life: she ne'er affliction knew;
Lov'd by her mistress, to that mistress true.
And, if Pythagoras hath truly taught,
That future joy by former merit's bought,
She may perhaps, chang'd to the snowy dove,
Sleep in the bosom of the queen of love;
Or haply may her beauteous form retain,
To scour with Dian's nymphs the verdant plain.
But to her soul should PERFECT bliss be given
For virtues past, she asks no other Heaven,
Than here again, 'midst flowery fields to rove,
And here again to share her mistress' love.

A new Version of the Second Psalm.

WHY storm the heathen thus in vain?
Ye nations, why combine,
With impotent and restless rage,
To combat pow'r divine?

Lords of the earth, and princes proud,
Against Jehovah's might,
And his anointed King, conspire,
With unrelenting spite.

"Come, let us now shake off their yoke,"
Presumptuously they say;
"Asunder burst their slavish chains,
"And cast their cords away."

But God their mad design shall scorn,
Their idle rage deride;
And, rising in resistless wrath,
Confound their pow'r and pride.

Thus, speaking to his foes, the Lord
Declares his sovereign will:
"My chosen King shall reign supreme
"On Zion's holy hill."

Ye nations, hear, while I reveal
God's absolute decree;
"Thou art my Son (say he,) this day
"I have begotten thee.

"Now ask of me, and I will make
"The Gentiles own thy sway;
"The utmost regions of the earth
"Shall thy command obey.
"Thy potent arm shall cause thy foes
"To tremble at thy nod;—
"Shall crush them as a potsherd bruis'd
"Beneath an iron rod."

Learn wisdom hence, ye kings of earth,
Ye rulers humbly hear;
Serve God rejoicing, but with joy
Chastis'd by lowly fear.

Embrace the Son, and seek his love,
Nor dare his ire engage;
Lest suddenly, with ruin dread,
He whelm you in his rage.

If, but in part, his wrath arise;
In that tremendous hour,
Bless'd they who safely can confide
In his almighty pow'r!
C.

The BRYDAL BED.

IT was a mayde of low degree
Sat on her true love's grave,
And with her teares most pitiouslye
The greene turf shee did lave;
She strew'd the flowre, shee pluck'd the weede,
And show'rs of tears shee shed;
"Sweet turfe," shee cry'd, "by fate decreede
"To be my brydal bed!

"I've sett thee, flow're, for that the flow're
"Of manhoode lyeth here;
"And water'd thee with plenteous show're
"Of many a brinye teare."
And still shee cry'd, "Oh staye, my love,
"My true-love, staye for mee;
"Staye till I've deck't my brydal bed,
"And I will followe thee.
"I pluck'd thee, weede, for that no weede
"Did in hys bosom growe;
"But sweetest flow'res, from virtue's seede,
"Did there spontaneous blowe:

"But